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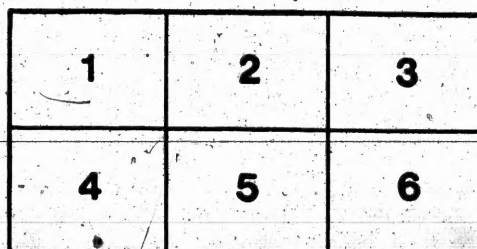
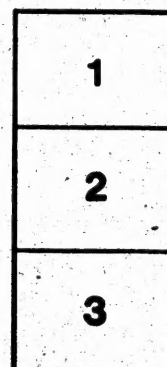
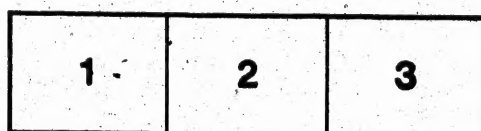
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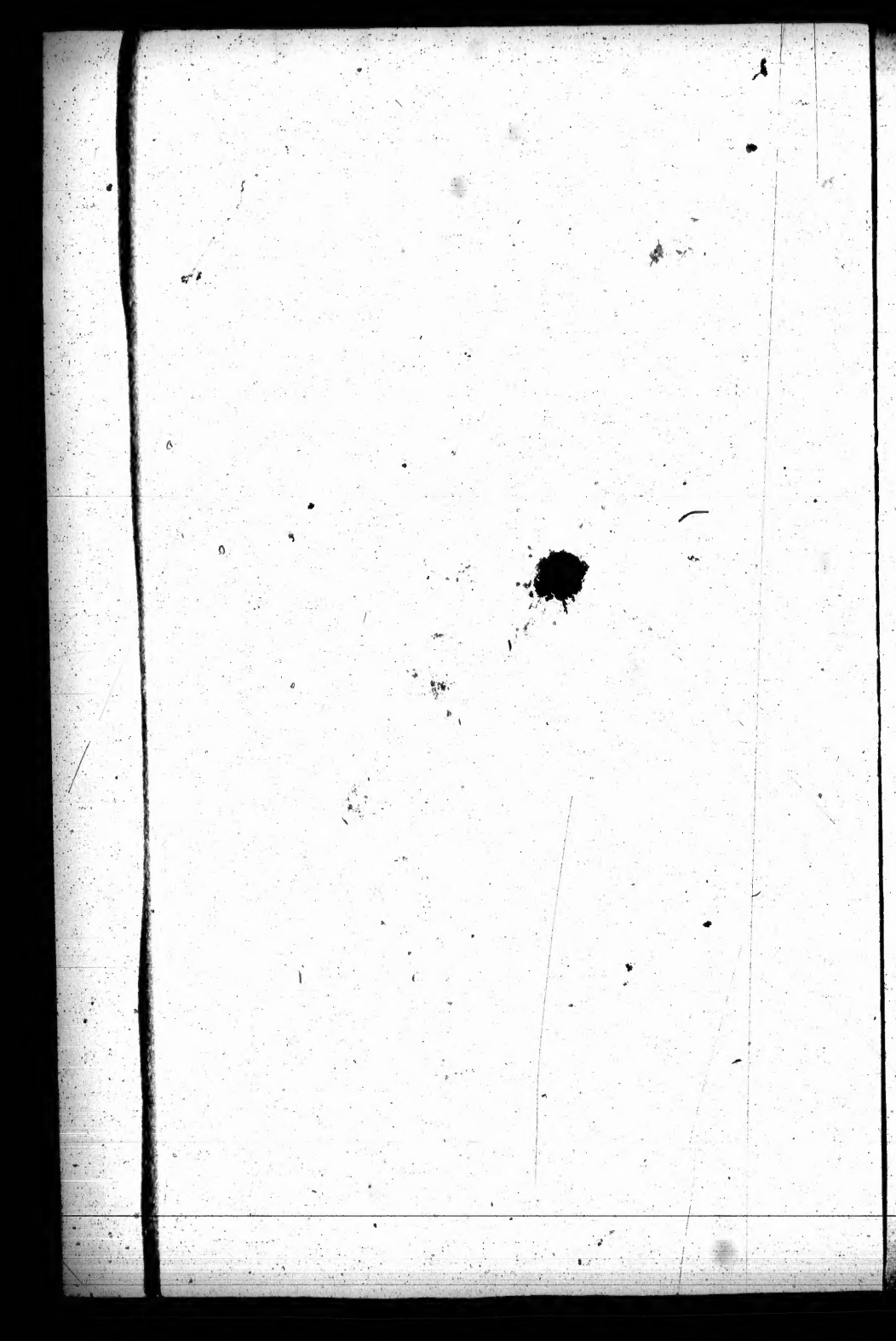
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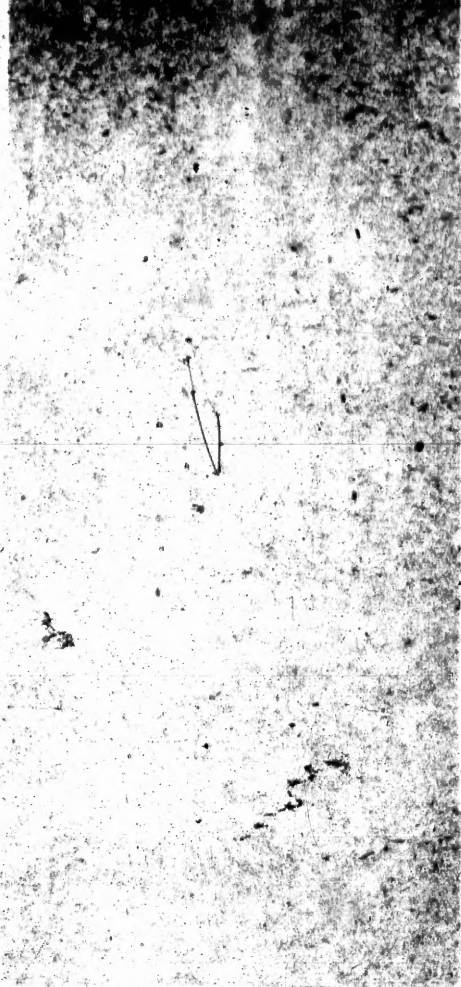
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270 Laue Avenue
Montreal, May 17, 1895

Dear Sir,

On calling at
the "Gazette" office today,
I found a communication
from Mr. Richard White
respecting a note from Mr.
Henry Hyman in which
he asked Mr. White
to answer a question of
yours as to the author

of the "Annals of Canada".
Not "W. Annandale" but
"David Chisholme" was
the writer of that work.
He died in this city on the
24th of Sept., 1842, hav-
ing been editor of the Ga-
zette for the five pre-
ceding years. Mr. Chis-
holme had been born
in Rosslyn, Scotland, ab-
out 1796, and was there
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young man at the time
of his death.

The "Annals of Canada"
contained a history of the
events of 1837-38 down to
a certain stage, for the
work, which was deemed
impartial and painstaking,
was not completed at the
time of the author's death.

The delay on the for-
getted part in reply-
ing to your question was
due to

W. White dress and to
mine. I answer as
however, without delay
Yours faithfully
Wm. O'Leary

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Canadian History

the general conduct of the Assembly, and its abettors out of doors, that, without descending into more particular details, no redress of grievances, however ample and complete, could ever conciliate into a proper line of duty, a body whose only aims and objects were to conjure up new grievances, the moment an attempt was made, on the part of the Imperial Government, to alleviate the old ones—thus laying the foundation of endless variance and disquietude, between the Mother Country and the Colony. But this was a state of things which could not be long endured without imminent danger to both the integrity of the Empire, and the peace and happiness of one of its most important Provinces. Accordingly a check was attempted to be placed on the revolutionary progress of the House of Assembly; and, upon the application of Government, the Imperial Parliament did not hesitate to vindicate its authority, for the purpose of preventing a disturbance of the peace in Lower Canada. This determination served to confirm the views of the subjects of the Assembly and its members, in their Legislative capacity, and finding that they could no longer impose upon the credulity of Government and Parliament, the usual resource, for the furtherance of their revolutionary designs, to plebeian patronage and popular agitation. Public meetings were accordingly held in almost every parish and county in the Province, at which the people were harangued, by the leaders of the Assembly, in the most inflammatory terms; and at which resolutions were passed, repudiating the authority of Parlia-

ment—denying the obligations of the laws—and enforcing a scheme of general organization and terrorism, which could not be otherwise contemplated than as the preliminary symptoms of insurrection and revolt. And here it may be mentioned, that, about this period, at St. Ours, a pole was erected in favor of a dismissed Captain of Militia, with the inscription, "*Elu par le peuple*;" that, at St. Hyacinthe, and at two taverns between St. Charles and St. Denis, the tri-colored flag was displayed for several days; that, at a public meeting held in the latter village, a very influential person present, afterwards arrested on a charge of High Treason, warned the people to be ready to arm themselves; that many of the tavern keepers, in the same neighbourhood, dismantled their signs, and substituted an Eagle in their place. Associations were formed in various places, for the purpose of fraternizing the members in the treasonable design of overthrowing the Government. At the head of these stood "the Central Committee of Montreal;" which gave life and animation to all the rest, received their reports, and instructed them as to their future proceedings. One of these organized clubs, denominated, "The Sons of Liberty," published, early in October, an "Address to the Young Men of the North American Colonies," containing sentiments well calculated to arouse the fears of every peaceful subject in the Province; and it was the constant endeavour of the whole of these illegal associations to promulgate doctrines of the most dangerous tendency to the peace of ser-

ciety. Young and old were taught to entertain sentiments at variance with the moral and political obligations of British subjects, and adverse to the supremacy of the Mother Country. Hireling newspapers were employed for disseminating these pernicious doctrines; Sundays and other holidays, were set apart for military exercise and movements; armed bands paraded the streets of Montreal in the night time, bearing the tri-color, and other banners of a revolutionary description; and the most peaceable of our citizens were afraid to venture out after nightfall, without being well armed.

On the 23rd of October, a "Grand Meeting of the Confederation of the six Counties," was held at St. Charles, which was remarkable for having given occasion to the most unreserved declaration of the sentiments of the revolutionary party that had until then been made. In the proceedings and the demeanor of this meeting, we discover the first overt act of the late rebellion. The cap of liberty was raised, and a solemn oath taken under it to be faithful to the revolutionary principles of which it was emblematical. It was resolved, that all men were created equal; that the authority of Great Britain over the Canadas, could not, and should not continue, except by the good will of the inhabitants; that the people had a right to demand and maintain, as a condition of their voluntary allegiance, changes and improvements in the form of their government, as their wants, the progress of their country since 1791, and their condition, rendered necessary for their contentment and well-being; that all

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the parishes of the "six Counties" should simulta-
neously elect Justices of the Peace and Officers of
Militia, in the room of those who had lately been
dismissed by the Executive Government; that they
should systematically oppose such officers as should
be named by Government, and subscribe funds to
prosecute and punish them; that the people of the
six Counties would throw no obstacle in the way
of the men belonging to the Regiments stationed
in the district, should they desire to improve their
condition by emigrating to the United States; and
that the meeting approved of the organization of
"The Sons of Liberty," and recommended similar
associations throughout the six Counties, and to
maintain active correspondence and frequent com-
munication with the "Sons of Liberty." This
meeting was attended by the Speaker and twelve
Members of the House of Assembly; and no time
was lost by themselves and their associates, in car-
rying the treasonable part of the resolutions into
effect. Bands of armed ruffians marched forth,
spreading fear and consternation among the peace-
able inhabitants of the country, threatening them
with the loss of life and property, if they did not
immediately acquiesce in the views and projects of
the insurgents, for so they might now be denomina-
ted. Justices of the Peace and Officers of Militia,
were by this means compelled to resign their Com-
missions; and such was the general system of
coercion and terrorism enforced, that many officers,
civil and military, were under the necessity of hid-
ing themselves, and of flying to Montreal for refuge

and protection. Others had written to the Governor-in-Chief, requesting an acceptance of their resignations, as the only means of saving their lives and property from destruction.

In order to counteract, if possible, these seditious practices and treasonable designs, as well as to overawe the violence of the revolutionary party in Montreal, a numerous meeting of the loyal and constitutional inhabitants was held in the *Place d'Armes*, of this city, on the same day, the 23rd of October; having especially for its object, the maintenance "of good order, the protection of life and property, and the connexion now happily existing between this Colony and the United Kingdom, at present put in jeopardy by the machinations of a disorganising and revolutionary faction within this Province, professedly bent on their destruction." Both the Governor-in-Chief and the Commander of the Forces, had written to Sir Colin Campbell, the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, for a reinforcement of troops from that quarter, the latter strongly urging that two Regiments should immediately be sent up. Sir John Colborne also took the precaution to write to Sir Francis Head, the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, intimating, that as he had made arrangements for assembling troops at certain points in Lower Canada, to aid the civil authorities and encourage the loyal, he would be compelled to withdraw from Upper Canada, as many of the troops as could be spared. In reply to this communication, Sir Francis Head stated, that except a small detachment at Bytown,

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he considered that the whole of the troops might be withdrawn from that Province. Indeed, His Excellency expressed it as his wish, that they might all be drafted off as soon as possible. And, accordingly, the whole of the troops were withdrawn from Upper Canada. On the 4th of November, the Attorney General of the Province was directed by the Governor-in-Chief to proceed from Quebec to Montreal, with instructions to use his utmost exertions to maintain good order, to execute the laws against those who were openly infringing them, and to organize an efficient police force. He was also armed with authority to deal according to law with foreign military officers, who, as the Governor-in-chief was informed, had shortly before then been introduced into the Province from France and the United States, for the purpose of lending assistance to the insurgents.

On Sunday, the 5th of November, a Proclamation, by the Magistrates of Montreal, appeared posted in different places in the city, setting forth, that depositions had been laid before them, to the effect, that numerous bodies of men, assuming distinctive badges and denominations, and influenced by adverse political opinions, intended, on the succeeding day, to parade the streets of the city; from which processions there was reason to apprehend that riots and tumults would ensue. All parties were, therefore, called on to refrain from joining or forming part of such processions, which were only calculated to disturb the public peace, and endanger the persons and property of Her Majesty's sub-

jects. During the whole of the forenoon of Monday, the streets were crowded with persons, anxiously waiting the issue of some important event, and eagerly inquiring as to the motions and intentions of the contending parties: It was at last discovered, that, about two o'clock in the afternoon, a considerable number of the "Sons of Liberty," had assembled together in an enclosed yard, off Great St. James Street, belonging to Bonacina's tavern in Notre Dame street; and where, it is said, they were duly marshalled, with the view of parading the streets, and attacking the opposite party, notwithstanding that three of their leaders had previously pledged themselves to the Magistrates, that no procession would take place. This meeting naturally excited the curiosity of the public, and among others attracted to the vicinity of the yard where it was held, were a few of the loyalist party, anxious, no doubt, to ascertain the real intentions of the "Sons of Liberty;" but the whole of the persons assembled in St. James Street, at this time, did not exceed thirty, including a few boys, who are reported to have amused themselves by throwing some stones into the inclosure, where the meeting was held. Between three and four o'clock, about three hundred of the "Sons of Liberty," who were armed with bludgeons, pistols, and other weapons, suddenly sallied into the streets, and made a furious and indiscriminate attack upon all who fell in their way. One or two persons were shot at; several personal conflicts took place; many were wounded, and knocked down on both

sides ; but the great numerical force of the assailants enabled them for a time to triumph, and clear the street before them, breaking many windows as they went along, and penetrating through the Place d'Armes into Notre Dame Street. By this time, the alarm was spread among the friends of order, who, without any other arms than their walking sticks, hurried to the scene of action, and soon convinced the "Sons of Liberty," that whatever might be their numbers, they were not to assail, with impunity, the peace of society, and the lives and property of Her Majesty's loyal subjects. The *Patriotes* were soon routed, and chased through the St. Lawrence Suburbs, where they once or twice attempted to rally, but in vain. Nothing could resist the impetuosity of the British loyalists ; and the "Sons of Liberty" were dispersed, we hope, never to meet again. It was now about six o'clock, and the municipal authorities deemed it necessary to read the Riot Act, and call out the military. A strong party of the loyalists was encountered by the Royal Regiment, in front of Papineau's house ; but instead of offering any resistance, they heartily cheered the gallant Regiment, and accompanied it to the Champ de Mars, where it was ordered to take post. The excited loyalists then marched through some of the principal streets of the town, and the St. Lawrence Suburbs, in pursuit of the "Sons of Liberty," a small party of whom had collected near the Bishop's Church, with the intention, it was supposed, of injuring that property. To prevent any further collision at that point, a com-

pany of the Royals were posted near the Church, to the officer in command of which the loyalists delivered a seven-barrelled gun, two other guns, a sword and a banner of the "Sons of Liberty," which they had taken from a house in Dorchester Street, where the Patriots were in the habit of meeting for drill. After this, all became quiet, and the Magistrates ordered the troops to their barracks. In proceeding thither, the Royals found a party attempting some injury to Papineau's house; but they desisted the moment the troops came up to them. That Regiment had scarcely arrived at their quarters, when they were called upon for assistance to protect the office of the *Vindicator* newspaper. A company was sent, but the property was destroyed before they arrived, and the people dispersed. "I was placed," says Colonel Wetherall, in a private letter to Lord Gosford, from which we have borrowed many of the above particulars, "on duty with three companies during the night, and patrolled the streets till day-light. All was still as death; no lives were lost; and no opposition offered to the military. General Brown and his myrmidons were decidedly the aggressors, and will not, I think, repeat an experiment in which they will always fail. The English Magistrates have been grossly attacked by those of the opposite party, for not firing upon the English mob, and for allowing the destruction of the *Vindicator* press; but it was impossible for them to foresee that event, their attention being directed to Papineau's house, for which the mob were in full march.

Having saved that, and the mob having, to all appearance, dispersed, they had no alternative but to dismiss the military."

It is here proper to mention, that on the 10th of November, Lieutenant General Sir John Colborne removed his Head Quarters from Sorel to Montreal, where His Excellency fixed his own and his family's residence for the winter.

In consequence of the system of disorganization which was carried on in the neighbourhood of St. Johns, and the disturbed state of that vicinity, a detachment of the Montreal Volunteer Cavalry marched thither on the 10th, under the command of Captain Glasgow, of the Royal Artillery, as a corps of observation. Upon arriving at St. Johns, he found a large body of armed *habitans* posted on the opposite or right bank of the Richelieu River. He approached them, attended by two of his men, and demanded to know the cause of their being met together at that place. They merely answered, that if he did not immediately retire, they would fire upon him. Captain Glasgow, upon this, ordered the Cavalry to take possession of the bridge at St. Johns, with the view of preventing this armed body from crossing over to that village, and carrying on, as they said they were resolved to do, their treasonable practices of intimidation and coercion.

The state of affairs both in this city and district now became truly alarming; and it was evident that a spirit of disaffection and contempt of the laws had spread itself far and wide among the peo-

ple. As far as possible, it became necessary to check the increasing evil. On the 16th of this month, warrants were issued for the apprehension of twenty-six individuals, charged with High Treason*. Eight of them were committed to prison at the time; but all the others who resided in town had made their escape. The warrants against Demaray and Davignon, who resided at St. Johns, and against Lionais, who lived at St. Athanase, were at the same time entrusted to a peace officer, who, accompanied by a body of about sixteen of the Royal Montreal Volunteer Cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Ermatinger, proceeded to execute them, by way of Longueuil and Chambly. The party succeeded in arresting Demaray and Davignon, and returned to Montreal with them by the same route. In the meantime, two companies

*The following are their names:—

J. F. B. Lionais,*	Louis Perrault,
P. F. Demaray,	Thomas S. Brown,
Jos. F. Davignon,	J. Dubuc,*
C. H. O. Cote, M.P.P.*	Ed. E. Rodier, M.P.P.
J. Gagnon,	E. B. O'Callaghan, M.P.P.
L. M. Viger, M.P.P.*	A. Simard,*
P. Amiot, M.P.P.*	A. Gauvin,†
Jos. T. Drolet, M.P.P.†	L. Gauthier,
Chas. A. Leblanc,*	R. Desrivieres,†
F. Tavernier,*	J. Girouard, M.P.P.
L. J. Papineau, M.P.P.	A. Ouimet,*
Amury Girod,	G. DeBoucherville.*
W. Nelson,†	

Those marked with an * were apprehended, and imprisoned within the next three days. Those with a † have since been committed to gaol. A. Girod committed suicide when about to be apprehended by a party of Long Point Volunteers.

of the 32nd Regiment, under the command of Major Reid, had been stationed at Longueuil, for the purpose of maintaining a communication with the apprehending party, who, in the event of being attacked between the latter place and Chambly, were instructed to fall back upon that post, or to make an effort to join Major Reid's detachment. At eleven o'clock, in the forenoon of the 17th, when within about two miles of Longueuil, the cavalry and the peace officer in charge of the prisoners, were intercepted by a large body of armed peasantry, who fired upon them from their houses, from behind the fences, and from a barn which bordered the road, and compelled them to abandon their prisoners, the cavalry not being able to assail the position of the insurgents, and seeing the road in advance lined in a similar manner with armed *habitans*, evidently determined to rescue the prisoners. After discharging their pistols among the insurgents, and, it is believed, with some effect, the cavalry wheeled about, and retired by a circuitous route, to town, several of them having been less or more wounded—their horses having also suffered from the fire of the insurgents. Major Reid having received orders not to abandon his post at Longueuil, could afford no assistance to the cavalry during their short engagement with the peasantry.

The whole circumstances attending this rescue having been reported, by means of depositions, to the civil authorities, and by them laid before His Excellency the Commander of the Forces, it was deemed advisable to reinforce the garrison at Cham-

bly. Accordingly, orders were communicated to Lieut. Colonel Wetherall to march, on the morning of the 18th, with the battalion under his command, to Chambly, by way of Longueuil; Major Jackson, of the Artillery, being directed to detach two light six-pounders to accompany the Royals. They were also accompanied by a detachment of the Montreal Cavalry, under Captain David, and the Deputy Sheriff, two Magistrates and a constable, under instructions to re-capture the prisoners, Demaray and Davignon, and to arrest any individuals who might be identified as having aided or abetted the treasonable rescue of the 17th. Colonel Wetherall was furnished with orders to assist the civil powers in arresting the offenders, and should they offer armed resistance to do so, to fire on the rebels, and also to destroy any house from which they might fire. On arriving at Chambly, on the evening of the 18th, Colonel Wetherall reported that at Longueuil they found all the houses closed, but the inhabitants at home. For seven miles beyond that place, every house was closed or barricaded, and not a man, woman or child to be seen. The houses from which the cavalry were fired at on the 17th, were entered and searched, but no arms or ammunition were found. The female inhabitants and children were concealed in the woods, and the men were reported to have gone to Boucherville. One man who had concealed himself in a hay-loft, at a tavern, within six miles of Chambly, was arrested; and owing to the activity and zeal of Captain David and his party, several

armed bands, who had apparently assembled for the purpose of intercepting the march of the troops, were discovered, but they fled on a nearer approach. Six individuals were apprehended—two of them in a wood, in which a party who had abandoned their houses took refuge. Captain Bell's company was detached to scour the woods, and several shots were exchanged, but no injury was sustained by either party. The prisoners were taken with arms in their hands, ammunition having been distributed to them and others on the previous night by Dr. Kimber, of Chambly, at a large meeting held near his house. About 300 men took up a position near the bridge over the small stream at Booth's tavern, about a mile from Chambly, for the purpose of resisting the Cavalry, and shewed such a good front that it was imagined they would carry their determination into effect. But at the approach of the advanced guard of the Royals, they fled in all directions, and the cavalry succeeded in capturing some of them. In making these captures, the troops diverged from their route on some occasions, and discovered that the houses off the high road were deserted, and that, in fact, the whole country was in arms, though evidently panic-struck. The prisoners were retained at Chambly, where the Royals, artillery and cavalry, remained in quarters.

Two days after this, intelligence was received by the civil authorities in this city, that T. S. Brown, who led, and was wounded, in the riots of the 6th of November, had, since his escape from town, collected a large force of insurgents at the village of St.

Charles, on the River Richelieu, which he was endeavouring to fortify; and that Papineau, O'Callaghan and Wolfred Nelson were concerned in these treasonable measures of proposed resistance. Against all these leaders, as we have seen, warrants for high treason had been issued; and an application was now made by the civil authorities to Sir John Colborne, the Commander of the Forces, for military to assist them in the apprehension of the delinquents. Accordingly, at three o'clock in the afternoon of the 22nd, Colonel Gore, in obedience to the instructions of the Lieutenant General Commanding, left Montreal with the flank companies (Captains Harris' and Maitland's) of the 24th Regiment, under the command of Lieut. Colonel Hughes, the light company of the 32d Regiment, commanded by Captain Markham, one howitzer, twelve pounder, under Lieut. Newcomen, Royal Artillery, and a party of the Montreal Cavalry, under Cornet Sweeny, on board the St. George steamer, *en route* to Sorel, where he disembarked at six o'clock, P. M., and placed the men in the barrack square. Colonel Gore, in his despatch of the 25th of November—for it is from that we copy—then goes on to report, that he directed Captain Crompton, who had been stationed at Sorel, to be prepared, with two companies of the 66th Regiment, to march at ten o'clock, when, according to instructions, the whole division proceeded on the road to St. Denis, which Colonel Gore had been directed to carry, and then move on rapidly to assist Lieut. Colonel Wetherall, of the Royal

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the Royal

Regiment, in his attack upon St. Charles. Colonel Gore was accompanied by the Deputy Sheriff, and other civil officers, charged with warrants for the apprehension of the leaders we have mentioned.

The distance of St. Denis from Sorel is only about eighteen miles; but the march was a severe one. It rained violently during the night, the mud and water reaching to the knees; and the troops did not reach the small but rapid river, which crosses the road, four miles and a half from St. Denis, until some time after daylight. In order to arrive at his destination, with as little delay as possible, Colonel Gore took the back road, to avoid the village of St. Ours, and pass the small river by a bridge higher up than the one by the main road, and also for the purpose of taking on an intelligent guide, who had volunteered to lead the way.

After passing the bridge, Colonel Gore observed an armed party that had been sent to oppose the crossing of the troops at the lower bridge, and who flanked their line of march; but it was deemed unnecessary to waste any time in dispersing them—the Colonel moving on to his point, which was now frequently impeded by the breaking down of the bridges. Several, however, were saved from demolition by Cornet Sweeny's detachment of Cavalry, who took two armed peasants, but could gain no information as to the intention of the insurgents. On approaching St. Denis, a strong body of armed men, moving along a wood, skirted the left flank of the troops. All the houses on the line of road were deserted; and, on nearing St.

Denis, they were attacked by skirmishers, occupying the houses and barns on the road, and along the banks of the river Richelieu. These were rapidly driven in by Captain Markham to the main entrance. St. Denis was found to be strongly occupied, and the entrance defended by a large fortified stone house, and a barriade crossing the road, and flanked by a building and houses, from which a severe fire was commenced. The advance was immediately reinforced with the companies of Captains Crémpton, Maitland, and Harris. The howitzer was placed in a position off the right of the road, at a range of three hundred and fifty yards, Lieutenant Newcomen being directed to fire round shot into the stone building, and batter it down, if possible. On examining this house, Colonel Gore found it to be well secured and flanked, and the incessant firing kept up from it, shewed it to be fully occupied. From the best information that could be obtained, the armed force of the rebels in St. Denis was 1,500 men. During these operations, the rebels were crossing the Richelieu, in batteaux, from St. Antoine; but no shot could be spared from the fortified house to obstruct their passage. Captain Markham got possession of a house immediately opposite to the fortified one, driving out the occupants at the point of the bayonet; but after this achievement, he was, almost instantaneously, wounded in three places. The day was now advancing: it was evident that the whole country was in arms, and as yet no important impression was made on the fortified building,

though sixty round shot had been expended, six only remaining. The ground occupied could not be maintained during the night. It was, therefore, necessary to come to some decision, either to assault the house, so well defended and flanked by other houses loopholed, or to fall back, before the bridges in rear could be broken down. The hazard of a failure, under such circumstances, and the jaded condition of the men, frost having succeeded the rain and snow, and their clothes freezing on them, determined Colonel Gore to fall back. Having collected the wounded, and placed them in carts, the howitzer being in the centre, Lieutenant Colonel Hughes was ordered to take the direction of the rear-guard, and to fall back. The troops were immediately followed by strong bodies of the rebels, in rear and on their right flank; but they were checked by the rear guard. Colonel Gore having observed that a strong force of the insurgents had been detached in the direction of the upper bridge, by which he had passed in the morning, turned to his left, on arriving where the road branched off to the two bridges, and directed his march to the lower bridge, having ascertained that St. Ours had not been fortified, thus ridding himself of the rebels who were skirting his right flank. On crossing the bridge, the Artillery horses were completely knocked up, and two of them fell. The Infantry immediately went to the gun, and every exertion was made to get it on. The horses of the officers, and those of the ammunition waggon, were also put to it, but without effect. The

wheels, clogged with mud, were now frozen, and, after seven hours of severe toil, during which Lieutenant Colonel Hughes never left the gun, the Medical Officer declared that, in half an hour more, the men would be frozen. The gun was spiked and abandoned. Col. Gore then moved on to St. Ours, where he had hoped to find the steamboat *Varennes*, which was ordered to meet him with provisions; but she had been attacked by two hundred armed peasants, and forced to cut her cable and return to Sorel. After passing through the village of St. Ours, the expedition halted at some farm houses, about a mile onwards, where the men were refreshed. In the morning, at daylight, they proceeded to Sorel, where they arrived at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the 24th.

"My loss in killed and wounded," adds Colonel Gore, "by the accompanying returns,* is one officer severely wounded (Captain Markham†), and

* KILLED.—24th Regiment, one sergeant, two rank and file; 32nd Regiment, two rank and file; 66th Regiment, one rank and file.

WOUNDED.—24th Regiment, two rank and file, severely; two rank and file, slightly; 32d Regiment, Captain Markham, severely, but not dangerously; three rank and file, severely; two rank and file, slightly.

MISSING.—24th Regiment, one rank and file; 32d Regiment, four rank and file (one wounded.)

TOTAL.—Killed, one sergeant, five rank and file; wounded, one Captain, nine rank and file; missing, six rank and file.

† One wound was through the right leg, and two on the left side of the neck. One of the balls making the wounds on the neck, was cut out behind the right shoulder; but the other was not extracted, in consequence of its course or seat not having been discovered. Besides these Captain M. received a wound, probably from a splinter, on the inside of the right knee.

nineteen killed and wounded, and four missing ;
 the loss of the rebels must have been about one
 hundred, which has since been confirmed. I have
 not received a correct return of the two companies
 of the 66th Regiment, but I do not think they lost
 more than one or two. I enclose a detailed report
 from Lieutenant Newcomen on the loss of the
 howitzer ; he deserves much praise for his conduct.
 In this arduous march, and during the whole of the
 operation, the officers and men displayed the high-
 est courage and steadiness, although exposed to
 extreme suffering. I am much indebted to Lieuten-
 ant Colonel Hughes, of the 24th Regiment, for
 the advice and assistance I received from him, and
 his exertions to extricate the gun ; and also to
 Lieutenant Lysons, of the Royal Regiment, at-
 tached to the Quarter Master General's Depart-
 ment, for his zealous and active conduct ; in Cap-
 tain Markham, of the 32d Regiment, who led the
 advance with great judgment, and was severely
 wounded, the service will be deprived, for some
 time, of a most valuable officer ; Surgeon Farnden,
 Royal Regiment, and Assistant Surgeon Macgri-
 gor, 32d Regiment, rendered every assistance in
 their power, and made the best arrangements for
 the wounded."

On the same day that Colonel Gore's division
 had left Montreal, orders were communicated from
 Head Quarters to Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall
 at Chambly, to march that night towards St.
 Charles with five companies, two pieces of Artil-
 lery, and a detachment of the Montreal Cavalry ;

the plan of operations requiring that he should arrive at St. Charles and attack it, at the same time that Colonel Gore should invest St. Denis. At seven o'clock at night, Colonel Wetherall, with four Companies of the Royal Regiment, a company of the 68th, under Lieutenant Johnson, two six pounders, under Captain Glasgow, and a detachment of the Volunteer Cavalry, under Captain David, left Chambly, and crossed the Richelieu at the upper ferry. The night was stormy, the rain fell in torrents, and the roads were so bad, that at four o'clock in the morning of the 23d, the division had only been able to reach St. Mathias, a distance of not more than four miles from the ferry. Here the division halted for a few hours, refreshments having been served to the men. At break of day the march was resumed; but the bad state of the roads impeded it so much, that Colonel Wetherall was prevented from proceeding further than St. Hilaire de Rouville, where he halted during the night, as well as on the following day, and ordered Major Warde, and the Grenadier Company of the Royals, to join him from Chambly. Thus reinforced, he proceeded on the morning of the 25th, on his route to St. Charles, before which he arrived that day at noon.

The march was commenced at ten o'clock in the forenoon. All the houses on the road were deserted, and all the bridges, five in number, had been broken down. Others, however, were constructed by Col. Wetherall, higher up the streams, by means of the timbers of the bridges destroyed, and rails

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from the fences. The last bridge crossed a deep ravine, with well-wooded banks; the opposite one being barricaded, and presenting a strong position for resistance. It had been occupied immediately before the arrival of the troops, and the men's dinners were found on the fire. Half a mile farther on, the road was again found to be judiciously barricaded; but the spot was deserted. Half a mile from St. Charles, the column was fired at from the opposite bank of the Richelieu, and one man severely wounded. The advanced guard were also attacked from some barns in front. The fire was quickly returned, the rebels driven back, and two of the barns were set on fire. A prisoner was taken in one of them, who was sent into the lines of the rebels with a message to the effect, that if they would give up their chiefs, the place should be spared. Colonel Wetherall here halted to reconnoitre; and observing that two guns commanded the road, he resolved to attack by deploying well to the right. In doing so the troops were saluted with a loud cheer from the stockade. A constant fire was kept up from the opposite bank of the river.

The breastwork to the left of the road, or entrance into the village, was well lined with men. Colonel Wetherall directed one of the six pounders to open upon them with canister, and kept their attention engaged by extending the Light Company of the Royals in front. The other six-pounder was directed against a loop-holed house, to the right of the high-road, from which a warm and

well directed fire was kept up ; but the line being well protected by a rail fence and ditch, no casualty occurred among the troops. After half an hour's work, Colonel Wetherall advanced to another rail fence and ditch, within a hundred yards of the stockade. A party of about sixty or seventy of the rebels made a sortie from the buildings, and attempted to turn the right of the troops, but they were driven back with some loss by the Grenadier Company of the Royals. The horse of every mounted officer, was here either killed or wounded. Colonel Wetherall, ordering one Company to support the guns, now directed the others to advance and assault that part of the position to which the above party had returned, whilst Major Warde, with the Light Company, carried the breastwork to the left, or nearest the river, where the Artillery had committed great havoc. The ground on the right was very rough ; and although the field was rapidly passed over, yet twenty of the soldiers were brought down. Every building was loop-holed, and obstinately defended, the troops being actually obliged to fire into the loopholes to dislodge the rebels. After twenty minutes sharp firing, and the buildings containing corn, hay, &c., had caught fire, it was, "*saute qui peut*" with the unfortunate rebels. Such of them as had been killed or wounded in the buildings, were unavoidably burnt. Here twenty-five prisoners were taken. Mr. Debartze's house was also on fire, but it was extinguished by the troops ; and Captain Bell's company was left in it. Colonel Wether-

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all then passed on to the church and presbytere, which are strongly situated, and placed one Company in the former and three in the latter. A company of the 66th was posted in two stone houses at the entrance of the village, as the advance picquet, beyond which no man was allowed to go. It was now half-past two in the afternoon.

No inhabitants were found in the village. At night, Mr. Blanchette, the Curé of St. Charles, and three attendants, arrived at Colonel Wetherall's quarters, when he obtained permission to visit his house and the church. He was allowed to take from the former what he pleased, for which he expressed his gratitude, especially upon finding that none of the church ornaments had been injured. By a journal found in the Curé's house, it appeared that the rebels had been under arms all the preceding night, in consequence of a *ruse* of Colonel Wetherall at St. Hilaire. At seven o'clock in the evening, he ordered the troops to march upon St. Charles. They did so for two miles, but returned with the utmost secrecy. By this means the rebels were kept on the alert, and their signals discovered.

The prisoners informed Colonel Wetherall, that Mr. T. S. Brown had commanded them. Before the troops had effected an entrance, however, he had succeeded in making his escape. Papineau, Drolet, and others crossed the river to St. Marc, on the arrival of the troops before St. Charles.

The two pieces of ordnance of the rebels were spiked and dismantled. The breast-work was set fire to. It was composed of trees laid lengthwise,

the interstices being filled up with mud; and the branches projecting. It was five feet high, six feet thick at the base, and two feet thick at the top. The logs were supported at intervals by cross staves.

We make the following quotation from Colonel Wetherall's second official despatch, the first having been intercepted, and never recovered:—

"On arriving at two hundred and fifty yards from the rebels' works, I took up a position, hoping that a display of my force would induce some defection among those infatuated people; they, however, opened a heavy fire, which was returned. I then advanced to another position, one hundred yards from the works; but finding the defenders obstinate, I stormed and carried them, burning every building in the stockade, except that of the Hon. Mr. Debartzch, which, however, is much injured. The affair occupied about one hour. The slaughter on the side of the rebels was great: only sixteen prisoners were then made. I have counted fifty-six bodies, and many more were killed in the buildings, and their bodies burnt.

"My killed and wounded are as follows:—The Royal Regiment—one sergeant, one rank and file killed; eight rank and file severely wounded; seven rank and file slightly wounded. 65th Regiment—one rank and file killed; two rank and file severely wounded; one rank and file slightly wounded. Total—one sergeant, two rank and file killed; ten rank and file severely wounded; eight rank and file slightly wounded.

"Every man and officer behaved nobly yesterday. Major Warde carried the right of the position in good style, and Captain Glasgow's artillery did good execution: he is a most zealous officer. Captain David's troop of Montreal Cavalry rendered essential service during the march, and I regret that more are not attached to my force. My horse was shot under me, and the chargers of Major Warde and Captain David severely wounded—since dead."

Colonel Wetherall having thus captured Saint Charles, and dispersed the insurgents, who are said to have amounted at this place to fifteen hun-

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dred fighting men, learned on the succeeding night that a considerable body of the rebels had assembled near Point Olivier, under Sancer, for the purpose of cutting off his march from St. Charles to Chambly. In preference, therefore, to proceeding onwards to St. Denis, he retraced his steps, and resolved to attack them. His march, however, was so much retarded by the difficulty of procuring conveyance for the wounded men, that it was too late to proceed when he arrived at St. Hilaire. But on the morning of the 28th he continued his march, leaving the sick and wounded at St. Hilaire, in the house of Colonel DeRouville, and a guard of one serjeant and fifteen men, in charge of Dr. Sewell, of the Montreal volunteers, where it was intended they should remain until the ice on the river would admit of their being transported in sleighs.

"About a mile from Point Olivier," says Colonel Wetherall, in his despatch of the 28th of November, "the rebels were discovered in a position well adapted to check my progress. They had protected themselves with an abattis, and two contemptible guns, mounted on carts. They fled as soon as I formed to attack, relinquishing their guns, which are in my possession. A few shots were exchanged, by which two men of the rebels were killed. I burnt a house from which they fired in their retreat. With the exception of a few straggling shots from the opposite side of the Richelieu, I reached this station (Chambly) without further opposition. I have brought in twenty-five prisoners, and propose marching them to Montreal, via

St. Johns and the railway, the day after to-morrow, should I not receive counter orders." On the 30th November, the whole of the troops under Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall, including two companies of the 32nd Regiment, who had been despatched to Chambly two days previous, were landed in town about eleven, by the steamboat "Princess Victoria," from Laprairie. They brought along with them the prisoners taken on the march to Chambly and St. Charles, and the pole and cap of liberty which had been raised at that place. The troops, upon landing, were heartily and enthusiastically cheered by the people on the wharf, who escorted them to their quarters, cheering as they went along.

During these operations on the Richelieu, and in the absence of any authentic intelligence regarding them, the state of the public mind in this city was such as no one can describe. Every countenance was marked with emotions of the deepest anxiety; and the only subject of conversation was the hope that favorable accounts might be received of Col. Wetherall and his brave fellows. The last intelligence that had been received in town from that gallant officer was from St. Hilaire de Rouville, dated early on the morning of the 23rd of November, two days previous to the attack upon St. Charles. Colonel Wetherall's despatch, from St. Hilaire, was brought to town by Dr. Jones, on Thursday, the 23rd, the day on which it was written; no further intelligence was received of him or from him until the afternoon of Sunday,

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the 26th, when a messenger arrived with his report of the taking of St. Charles, every other despatch having been intercepted by the rebels, who were openly in arms, in every part of the country. The joy which pervaded Montreal, and glistened in every eye, when the news of the defeat of the rebels at St. Charles was brought in, was great indeed. It is well known that the fate of the Province, and the lives and fortunes of many thousands of the loyal inhabitants, depended upon the success, or failure of this solitary expedition. From Sunday, the 26th, to Tuesday, the 28th, no intelligence having been received of the further proceedings of Colonel Wetherall, and it being understood that a large body of rebels, who had assembled at Point Olivier, would attempt to intercept the march of the troops from St. Charles to Chambly, the Lieutenant General commanding ordered one company of the 83rd Regiment, under Major Trydell, two companies of the 32nd Regiment, under Captain Birtwhistle, a detachment of Artillery, under Lieutenant Wilkins, with a field-piece, and about twelve of the Montreal Cavalry, under Cornet Sweeny, to proceed to Chambly, and thence in the direction of Rouville, for the purpose of supporting Colonel Wetherall. But as we have already mentioned, Colonel Wetherall had himself dispersed the rebels at Point Olivier, and arrived at Chambly at seven o'clock in the evening of the 28th of November, where he met the reinforcements sent to his assistance. And thus the rebellion in that quarter was so far crushed as to set the

minds of the loyal inhabitants at ease upon the subject for the present, and restore their confidence in the final establishment of peace and good order.

In concluding this portion of our narrative, we deem it proper to make the following extract from a despatch from Sir John Colborne to Major-General Lord Fitzroy Somerset, dated the 29th of November:—

"The advanced period of the season, and the constant expectation of the navigation becoming impracticable, the passage of the river being interrupted, it became necessary to use the utmost exertion with a view of restoring order in the revolted district. The troops having been called upon to act in the disturbed districts, and to put down this sudden and extensively combined revolt, have had to contend with great difficulties; their communications with head quarters having been completely interrupted by the armed peasantry assembled on the line of march.

"I am much indebted to Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall for his active zeal and judicious conduct on many occasions in which he has been employed at this critical period. I forward reports of Colonel Gore and Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall, which will afford the General Commanding-in-Chief full information of the proceedings of the detachments under their command, and returns of killed and wounded.

"Captain Morkham, an intelligent and zealous officer, has received severe wounds.

"I cannot close my despatch without mentioning the exertions of Captain David and the Montreal Volunteer Corps of Cavalry, who accompanied the troops in the services in which they have been engaged."

While the military operations which we have narrated were in progress on the banks of the Richelieu, a most laudable spirit of zeal and activity was displayed by the loyal citizens of Quebec and Montreal, as well as by the inhabitants of the Townships and other parts of the Province, in

coming forward to embody themselves in Volunteer Corps, of various denominations, for the purpose of putting down the rebellious attempts which had been made to overturn the Government. At Quebec, several corps of Infantry and Artillery were formed and completely organized, amounting to several thousand men. At Montreal, three Volunteer Brigades were also formed and thoroughly organized. The first, already in existence, was increased, and now consisted of the Royal Montreal Cavalry, having two troops within the city, and one at Lachine, a company of Artillery, and three companies of Rifles; the second consisted of three Battalions of Ward Associations; and the third, of the Montreal Light Infantry, and the Queen's troop of Light Dragoons; amounting in all to about 4000 rank and file. The embodying of these volunteers, which commenced the day after the rescue near Longueuil, and the excellent state of discipline to which they speedily attained, rendered them most valuable auxiliaries to the regular troops, not only in the performance of garrison duties, but in the maintenance of tranquillity and the suppression of revolt. In other parts of this District, and that of St. Francis, upwards of fifty corps of one description or another were formed, some of which rendered good and essential service to the cause of peace and good order. In accepting the services of all these loyal volunteers, and embodying them as a defensive force, in aid of the regular troops, the Lieutenant-General commanding had well anticipated the instruc-

tions of the Colonial Minister, which, in a despatch of the 6th of December, were conveyed to His Excellency in these terms:—"If, however, your strength should be inadequate to these objects, you will, of course, avail yourself of the voluntary zeal of such of Her Majesty's loyal subjects as may be willing to serve under your authority, and to submit themselves entirely to your orders."

On the 30th of November, the day on which Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall arrived at Montreal with the division under his command, and the prisoners taken at St. Charles, Colonel Gore left this city for Sorel, on board the *John Bull* steamer, with one company of the 24th Regiment, four companies of the 32nd, two companies of the 66th, one company of the 83rd, and a detachment of Artillery, and arrived at Sorel that evening, his orders being to move a second time on St. Denis, and to attack the rebels occupying that village. It was intended that this expedition should proceed up the Richelieu river in the steamboat as far as the navigation was practicable; and on the morning of the 1st of December, an attempt was made to break through the ice with the *John Bull*, but after proceeding for about a mile, it was found impracticable. The troops were therefore landed, and marched to St. Ours, where they halted during the night. Next morning they entered St. Denis without opposition, that place having been abandoned the preceding night. In the course of that and the next day, the property of the rebel, Wolfred Nelson, the fortified house from which the troops had been fired on in the at-

tack of the 23rd of November, and all the defences, were destroyed. On the morning of the 4th, the expedition marched on to St. Charles, where Colonel Gore arrived at noon, with five Companies and two guns, having left three companies and one gun at St. Denis, under the command of Major Reid, of the 32nd Regiment. At St. Charles, Col. Gore received information that some of the rebel chiefs had fled to St. Hyacinthe, where it was probable, they had established themselves. Agreeably to the orders which he had received, Colonel Gore immediately proceeded with his force to that place, which he entered in the evening. He surrounded the house where Papineau usually resided when at the village; but though strictly searched, the rebel was not found. Colonel Gore was accompanied by Messire Crevier, the Curé of the parish, from whom every necessary information was obtained.

Colonel Gore returned to St. Charles on the evening of the 4th, leaving orders with the force at St. Hyacinthe to follow him thither the next day, which they did. He then directed two companies of the 83rd to occupy St. Charles, with one gun; three companies, with one gun, to occupy St. Denis, having a detachment at St. Ours; and taking the remainder of the force under his command, which consisted of four companies of the 32nd, and a howitzer, Colonel Gore returned to Sorel, and thence to Montreal, where he arrived in the afternoon of the 7th of December. The howitzer, which was abandoned on the road in returning from St. Denis, on

the 23rd ultimo, was recovered. An iron gun, and a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition, were found at St. Denis, and destroyed. In what direction the leaders of the rebels had fled, or where they had hid themselves, no one could tell at the time. If we may believe a statement afterwards published in the United States, by one of themselves, it would appear, that Brown and Nelson, with five others whose names had not transpired, had left St. Denis on the evening of the 1st December, travelling the whole night in carts, and directing their course towards St. Cesaire, where they arrived in the morning. Here they were informed, that every pass was guarded, and that they must proceed through the woods, their informant offering to guide them. They then crossed to the right bank of the Yamaska river, and continued walking until night, when they were overtaken by a tremendous hurricane, the trees falling in every direction around them. The succeeding night they also passed in the woods, having kindled a fire, and slept on beds made of hemlock branches. Their only food during the day, consisted of a few small frozen turnips, "which," to use the words of the narrator, "the owner appeared to have left on the field for the gleaners, after the precept of the Levitical Law." Next day they approached the village of Granby, in the County of Shefford, where a guard was stationed. They again retired into the woods, and discovered another branch of the Yamaska, which Nelson, though a tall and powerful man, crossed with difficulty. This deterred his

companions from following him; and they here lost sight of him. After undergoing the greatest privations, he was some time afterwards discovered and brought to Montreal, where he was confined as a prisoner of state. Here also his six companions were deserted by their guide, and five of them, being tired of wandering in the woods, determined to return to the French settlements. J. T. Drolet, M.P.P., who was supposed to have been one of them, subsequently surrendered himself, and was put in confinement in the Montreal goal. Brown alone persisted in as direct a course as his safety would admit of, to the State of Vermont, where he at last arrived, after a patient endurance of unparalleled hardships.

We have hitherto refrained from alluding to one of the most lamentable and tragical events that attended the unnatural rebellion of which we give this brief outline, in order to avail ourselves of one opportunity for representing the whole melancholy circumstance in consecutive detail. We mean the cruel and barbarous murder of Lieutenant Weir, of the 32nd Regiment.

Early in the morning of the 22d of November, being the day in course of which the first expedition, under Colonel Gore, left Montreal for St. Denis, by way of Sorel, he was sent by land to the latter place, with despatches to the officer in command, directing him to have two companies of the 66th Regiment in readiness to join the forces under Colonel Gore, which would leave Montreal in the afternoon by steamboat. Lieutenant Weir travel-

led in a calèche; but the roads were so bad, that he did not arrive at Sorel, until after the landing at that place of Colonel Gore, and half an hour after that officer with his division, had marched on his route to St. Denis. "Finding this to be the case," says Lieutenant Griffin, of the 32d Regiment, from whose report we borrow the particulars of this unfortunate occurrence, "Lieutenant Weir hired a fresh calèche at Sorel, with a driver named LaValée, (whose deposition has since been received,) and started to join the troops. There are two parallel roads to St. Denis which converge four miles from St. Ours. By mistake, Lieutenant Weir took the lower road, (the troops having marched by the upper,) thus he passed beyond the troops on their line of march, without seeing them, and arrived at St. Denis about seven, A.M. His expression of surprise at not seeing any soldiers on his arrival at the village, was, I was told, the first intimation Dr. Nelson had, that any were on their march in that direction. Preparations were then made to oppose their entrance into the village of St. Denis, (where in fact, no opposition had been expected,)—the result is known. Lieutenant Weir was made a prisoner, and closely pinioned. When the attack was commenced, he was ordered under a guard, consisting of Captain Jalbert, two men named Migneault, one named Lecour, and a driver, a lad named Gustin, in Dr. Nelson's waggon, to be taken to St. Charles. On arriving opposite Madame Nyotte's house, (already mentioned) in the outskirts of the village, the bonds with which Lieutenant

Weir was fastened, became so painful, and his hands so much swollen therefrom, that he insisted, as much as lay in his power, on their being loosened. This irritated his brutal guardians, who having him bound and defenceless in their power, wantonly struck him with their sabres; he jumped out of the waggon, and sought refuge under it; he was then shot twice with pistols, which took effect in his back and groin, and stabbed with a sabre through the wheels of the waggon, in various parts of the body; he was then dragged from beneath the waggon, by the straps which confined his arms, and finally butchered."

For many days no correct information could be obtained, with respect to Lieutenant Weir, although it was at once suspected, and, indeed, reported abroad in all directions, that he had not only been made a prisoner, but also slaughtered in cold blood by the rebels; and the greatest anxiety prevailed among the loyal portion of the community, with respect to his fate. The second expedition to St. Denis disclosed the whole truth. The following harrowing details of the discovery of the body of Lieutenant Weir, we copy from Lieutenant Griffin's interesting statement:—

At St. Denis, on Monday morning, Dec. 4th, a letter was given to me, received by the Officer commanding, from a Monsieur Joseph Hubert, of St. Denis, written from the opposite village of St. Antoine, in which the writer stated, that, from what information he had been enabled to gather from the inhabitants of St. Denis, previous to his departure, the body of the murdered officer, Lieut. Weir, 32d Regiment, would most likely be found on the shore of the river Richelieu, behind the house of a Madame Nyotte, where there was a small tannery. I read the letter to

several of the villagers of St. Denis, who at once led me to the spot described in Monsieur Hubert's letter; and there, in the water of the Richelieu, at the depth of about two feet, I discovered a black mass, covered with large stones, which kept it down; the stones being removed, a body, which was lying on its face, rose to the surface, and I immediately recognized it to be that of my murdered brother officer, poor Weir. Assistant Surgeon A. M'Grigor, 32nd Regiment, who was with me, then took charge of the body, and had it conveyed to a house, where a coffin was made for it, in order to remove it to Montreal for interment. Dr. M'Grigor's statement of the injuries inflicted on the body of Lieut. Weir is annexed:

On the forehead, there was a sabre wound about four inches in length, running perpendicularly, which penetrated deep into the bone, and surrounding which, there were several small wounds, as if done by a sharp-pointed instrument.

The back of the head was completely laid open—the scalp and bones reduced to a mass of small particles—the substance of the brain was beat into a mash, and pieces of skull and scalp were mingled with it; and on the sides of this opening were several wounds.

On the left side of the neck, immediately below the bone of the ear, there were several sabre wounds about an inch in depth, which laid open the great blood-vessels and the side of the wind-pipe: the wounds might be about four and a half inches in length. About the middle of the ear, there was a sabre wound, about an inch in depth and four inches in length, which divided the ear, and laid the whole of that side of the neck open.

There were two wounds on the left side of the back, a little above the shoulder blade, about an inch in depth,—also a gun-shot wound about two inches below these wounds; the ball penetrated about half an inch below the surface.

The fingers of both hands were hacked and split to pieces, as if done by an axe. Some of the fingers, more particularly those of the left hand, were so hacked, that on taking the body out of the water, pieces of them dropped off; and in the left groin, there was a gun-shot wound—the ball lodged in the belly.

A. M'GRIGOR,
Ass. Surg. 32d Regt.

The funeral of Lieutenant Weir took place in Montreal on the 8th of December, at two o'clock in the afternoon, with military honours; and we may say that Montreal never witnessed so solemn and imposing a spectacle, there being at least eight thousand persons present, to pay the last sad tribute of respect to this gallant and deserving officer. At one o'clock, every shop and public office in town was closed, in melancholy compliment to the occasion, and as a mark of the detestation in which the manner of Lieutenant Weir's death was held by every loyal and well-disposed mind. From that hour till two, crowds were seen in every street, proceeding in funeral pace to the late quarters of the deceased, near the Barracks; while the different volunteer companies and regiments met at their respective places of rendezvous, in order to march to the house where the body lay, to take up their station in the procession. This gave a truly military aspect to the town; and a stranger might have been induced to believe, what, indeed, was nearly the fact, that Montreal was a city of soldiers. The lane leading to the late residence of the deceased, from St. Paul Street, was lined on either side by a large party of the 32d Regiment, resting on their arms reversed—that most solemn of all military positions. Through this party the procession moved off, in nearly the following order:—A firing party proceeded in advance, having their arms reversed. The bands of the 32d Regiment, and of the Royals then followed, playing the usual mournful music on such occasions. Next proceeded

the hearse; the cap, sword, sash and belt of the deceased being on the coffin, the sight of which excited throughout the spectators emotions of the most melancholy description. The hearse was preceded by the Rev. Mr. Esson, the officiating clergyman, in his robes, and followed by Sir John Colborne, the Commander of the Forces, by Colonel Maitland, Colonel Eden, Colonel Gore, and the other Staff Officers of His Excellency. These were followed by the Legislative Councillors in town, the Magistrates, and an immense concourse of such of the inhabitants as did not bear arms. After the civilians, the various military corps of the city moved. The first was the volunteer Brigade, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel M'Cord, consisting of the Rifles, under Major Griffin, and the Artillery, under Major Boston. The Volunteer Cavalry under Major David, belonging to the same Brigade, were preceded by the Queen's Light Dragoons, under Captain W. Jones—a new and highly efficient body of men. Both bodies of Cavalry were on foot. The Montreal Light Infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Holmes, who had succeeded Colonel Guy, now Major of the Volunteer Militia, followed. Then came the troops in garrison not on duty. The whole procession proceeded down the Quebec Suburbs, between the opened ranks of the Volunteer Companies of the wards, which, after it had passed, followed in the rear. An idea may be formed of the concourse of persons assembled on this mournful occasion, by stating, that the road from the Quebec Suburbs to

the burying ground, which is half a mile in length, was occupied by one living mass of men; and no one could get admittance to the burying-ground, except those who immediately followed the hearse. Mr. Esson performed the funeral service in very solemn and affecting language, appropriate to the occasion; and the firing party having performed their duty to the remains of their lamented officer, the procession returned home with sad reflections at the fate of a young man, who, a few days before, was full of military zeal and ardour.

Soon afterwards, public meetings were held both at Quebec and in this city, for the purpose of considering the propriety of erecting a monument to the memory of Lieutenant Weir; and we understand that along with the subscriptions of the officers of the 32nd Regiment, a handsome sum was collected for this praiseworthy object.

We return to our narrative of general events from this sad and distressing episode. On the 29th of November, the Governor in Chief issued a monitory Proclamation to the insurgents, inviting them to return to their allegiance, and offering them, in such case, forgetfulness and immunity for the past, and a continuance of that paternal protection which they had hitherto enjoyed under British sway. Proclamations were also issued, offering rewards for the apprehension of the leaders of the insurrection, and their delivery into the hands of any Justice of the Peace in Quebec or Montreal.* On the 5th of

* £1000 was offered for the apprehension of Louis J. Papineau.

December, another Proclamation was issued, declaring Martial Law in the District of Montreal, and a Commission issued investing Lieutenant General Sir John Colborne with the necessary authority to execute it. Extreme as this measure was, no one pretended to deny the necessity of it, considering the insurrectionary state of this district at the time—a strong armed force being maintained on foot in the County of the Lake of Two Mountains, and who had been making preparations for open war. The measure was confirmed and approved of by the Imperial Government; and the Court of King's Bench of this District, upon an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* in behalf of some of the State prisoners, vindicated, by a solemn and unanimous decision, the legality of the proceeding.

£500 Reward, each, for

Dr. Wolfred Nelson, of Saint Denis.

Thomas Storrew Brown, of Montreal.

Edmund B. O'Callaghan, of do. M. P. P.

Joseph T. Drolet, of Saint Marc, M. P. P.

Jean J. Girouard, of Saint Benoit, M. P. P.

William H. Scott, of Saint Eustache, M. P. P.

Edward E. Rodier, of Montreal, M. P. P.

Amury Girod, an alien.

Jean O. Chenier, of Two Mountains.

And £100 each, for

Pierre Paul Demaray, of Saint Johns.

Joseph François Davignon, of do. do.

Julien Gagnon, of L'Acadie.

Pierre Amiot, of Vercheres, M. P. P.

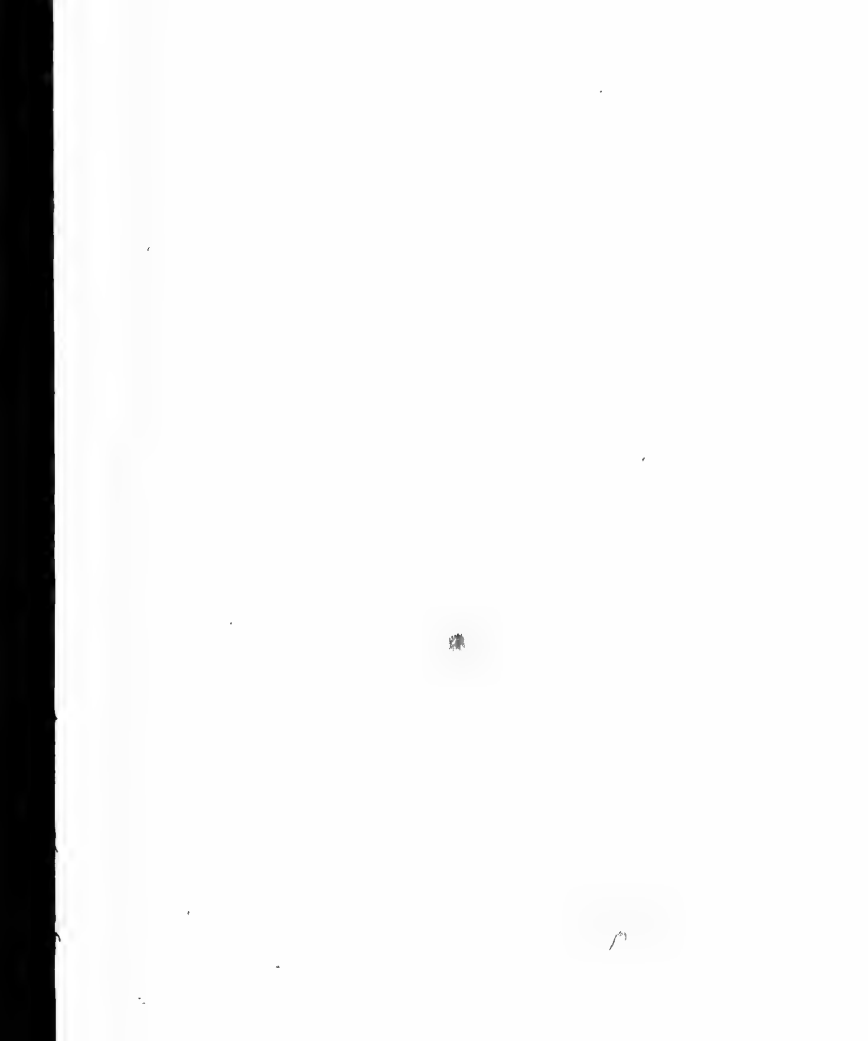
Louis Perrault, of Montreal.

Alphonse Gauvin, of do.

Louis Gauthier, of do.

Rodolphe Desrivieres,

About this time, a report gained currency in the Counties of Stanstead and Missisquoi, which border the United States, that preparations had been made by a band of refugee rebels to invade Canada from some place in the neighbouring State of Vermont. Measures were therefore taken to organize the volunteers in those parts, and arms and ammunition were sent to them from Montreal. While engaged in conveying some of these arms from Isle aux Noix to Brome, in the County of Shefford, through the County of Missisquoi, Captain Kemp, who was escorting the waggons, with a body of about fifty volunteers, armed with such guns as could be collected among themselves, was informed, by an express from Philipsburgh, who met him on the way, that a considerable body of rebels had passed through that village early in the morning, to the State of Vermont, and were expected back that night, when it was intended to burn the village. Captain Kemp immediately despatched messengers in various directions for raising men, armed or unarmed, who were to march to Philipsburgh, where he had the leave of Colonel Knowlton, of Brome, to deal out the arms intended for his battalion, should necessity require it. In consequence of the information which he had received, Capt. Kemp left the empty waggons four miles east of Philipsburgh, and struck through the woods, so as to meet the loaded waggons at the head of Missisquoi Bay, in order to strengthen the escort from Caldwell's Manor and St. Armand West. They then proceeded in company to Philipsburgh, where



they arrived at four o'clock in the afternoon of the 6th December, and where they found volunteers assembling from different points. Captain Kemp learned that scouts had come in from Swanton, in the State of Vermont, bringing information that a large body of men, well equipped, and having with them two pieces of cannon, had taken up their line of march for the Province. The volunteers were instantly supplied with muskets and ammunition from the waggons; and at six o'clock, a position was taken up a mile to the south of the village of Philipsburgh, on the west road leading to Swanton. After occupying this position for nearly two hours, positive information was received by Captain Kemp, that the insurgents had taken the east road leading to Swanton. He, therefore, left a strong guard on the west road, and marched with the rest of his men to a position two miles and half east of Philipsburgh, where he drew up his men on a height to the left, commanding the highway at the intersection of the Swanton road, leading north and south, with the St. Armand's road leading east and west. The volunteer pickets had retired upon this spot unperceived by the invaders, whose numbers were ascertained to be upwards of two hundred. The total force under Captain Kemp was about two hundred, but they were not all present when the engagement commenced, many of them having been detached in various directions. The moment that the van of the volunteers perceived the enemy, they commenced firing upon them, without any orders from their

commander; but Captain Kemp very properly observes in his despatch, "I need hardly apologize for the impetuosity of an undisciplined body, hastily taken away from their farming occupations, and placed in sight of an enemy, only a few hours after arms had been placed in their hands." The fire was, however, instantly returned by the rebels; and the firing was kept up, on both sides, for about a quarter of an hour, when the enemy retreated towards the State of Vermont, leaving behind one dead, two wounded, three prisoners, two pieces of cannon, about fifty stand of arms, five kegs of gun-powder, six boxes of ball-cartridge, and two flags.

This brilliant affair took place near the residence of Mr. Hiram Moore, and popularly called Moore's corner, in consequence of the Swanton and St. Armand's road intersecting one another in the immediate neighbourhood. It would appear, that when the volunteers attacked the rebels, a party of the latter had obtained possession of Mr. Moore's house, which they were in the act of pillaging, when the fire of the assailants called off their attention to more serious operations. Among the wounded prisoners, were Robert Shore Milnes Bouchette, of Quebec, Advocate, who led the advanced guard of the rebels, and a nephew of Julien Gagnon, of St. Valentine, in L'Acadie, who was reported to have been the leader of the party. The prisoners were detained at Moore's corner all night, preparatory to being brought into Montreal. Their wounds were dressed, and every other attention paid to them which humanity dictated.

The day after this engagement, the rebel leaders, Kimber, Desrivieres and Marchesseault, along with Jalbert, the supposed murderer of Lieutenant Weir, were found wandering about the neighbourhood of Bedford, in Missisquoi, apprehended, and conveyed to Montreal as prisoners.

We cannot conclude this branch of our narrative better than by republishing the following General Orders :—

HEAD QUARTERS,
Montreal, Dec. 12, 1837.

The active service in which the troops have been suddenly engaged, since the outbreak of an organized and extensive revolt in this Province; has hitherto prevented the Lieutenant General Commanding from expressing his satisfaction at the conduct and zealous exertions of the troops in the Montreal District, under his command, but His Excellency is persuaded, that at no period has the energy and activity of the British Army been more conspicuous, than in the series of marches, which have been lately accomplished. Although the unfavourable state of the weather, and the almost impracticable state of the roads, prevented the force under the command of the Hon. Col. Gore from entering the village of St. Denis, on the first appearance of the revolt, the success which has since attended the exertions of that officer and the force under his command, and the capture of arms and ammunition, have had the effect of restoring order and tranquillity to that section of the country. The zeal and energy evinced by Lieut. Colonel Hughes, 24th Regt., under whose immediate command the force proceeded to St. Denis, has been brought under the notice of the Lieutenant General Commanding, as well as the gallantry displayed by Captain Markham, 32nd Regiment, who was severely wounded in the attack upon the enemy's fortified position at St. Denis. The attack upon the stockaded positions at St. Charles, so ably conducted by Colonel Wetherall, and so gallantly executed by himself and the force under his command, consisting of the Royal Regiment, a detachment of the Royal Artillery and 66th Regiment, and the Montreal Cavalry, led to the complete defeat of the enemy, and has essentially con-

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tributed to put down revolt on the Richelieu. Lieutenant Col. Wetherall speaks most favourably of the conduct of Major Warde, of the Royal Regiment, Captain Glasgow, Royal Artillery, and Captain David, Montreal Cavalry, upon this occasion.

The service upon which the troops have lately been engaged, has been greatly facilitated by the spirited and unparalleled exertions of the Volunteer Corps of Montreal, some of which had only been embodied within the last fortnight, and his Excellency trusts that the energy, forbearance and discipline which have hitherto characterized the troops in general, will speedily put an end to the deplorable warfare in which they are engaged.

JOHN EDEN, *Depy. Adj. Gen.*

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Montreal, February 8, 1848.

SIR,—With respect to the communication with you this morning, it affords me much satisfaction to have received the commands of the Lieutenant-General Commanding, to assure you, that although your name did not appear in the General Order of the 12th December last, His Excellency is not the less sensible of the gallantry which Lieut.-Colonel Wetherall reports to be displayed by yourself, and the detachment of the 66th Regiment under your command, in the attack of the rebel position at St. Charles. I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN EDEN, *Lieut.-Colonel,*

Depy. Adj. Genl.

To Lieut. Johnston, 66th Regiment.

We have already alluded to the system of terrorism and coercion, by which a considerable number of Magistrates and Officers of Militia, in the District of Montreal, were compelled to surrender their commissions; and by which the loyal and peaceable inhabitants were forced to take refuge in this City and other places, for the preservation of their lives, leaving their property of every description at the mercy of the insurgents. In no part of the country was the system carried into effect with more unmitigated rigour and cruelty, than in the

County of Two Mountains, especially at St. Eustache, St. Benoit, and St. Scholastique. Bands of nocturnal marauders paraded the country, armed and disguised, threatening the lives and property of all who did not join them, with destruction; firing into the houses of those who were obnoxious to them; burning their barns and other outhouses; maiming and disfiguring their cattle; and, finally, carrying away, by force and violence, whatever they deemed essential to their projects of treason and open rebellion. Here, too, the insurgents had assembled in greater force, and were more fully prepared for resistance, than in any other part of the district. They fortified themselves in various places, and were commanded by Girod, Chenier, Girouard, and Dumouchelle—individuals who were supposed to have been the most able and active leaders of the revolt. Their strongholds were St. Eustache, and St. Benoit or Grand-Brulé. But it was impossible for the Commander of the Forces to spare a sufficient number of troops for the investment of those places, until the insurrection on the south side of the St. Lawrence should be so far quelled as to admit of the withdrawing, from that quarter to the north, of almost the whole of the disposable regular force. With this view, Major Reid, of the 32nd Regiment, was directed to proceed to St. Johns with part of the force which had returned from St. Charles and St. Hyacinthe, and unite with the companies under Lieutenant Colonel Hughes, assembled at that post, for the purpose of attacking a considerable number of the inhabitants

of the county of L'Acadie, who had a second time taken the field, and had crossed the Richelieu, and joined the insurgents under Bouchette, at Swanton in the United States. We have seen, however, the brilliant manner in which the loyal population of Missisquoi, and the Shefford Volunteers, had attacked and routed this party of insurgents and invaders, compelling them to retreat into the United States, with great loss, in prisoners, arms, and munitions, before they had penetrated a mile into the township of St. Armand. This exploit enabled Sir John Colborne to withdraw several companies from St. Johns, and to make the necessary arrangements for entering the county of the Lake of Two Mountains, and finally suppressing the rebellion in that quarter.

Accordingly, on the morning of the 13th of December, the whole of the forces, both regulars and volunteers, destined to act against the rebels collected at St. Eustache, St. Benoit, and other places in the neighbourhood of these insurgents' posts, marched out of Montreal, escorted by an immense concourse of the loyal inhabitants, cheering them in the most enthusiastic manner, and warmly wishing them success and safety. They formed two Brigades, the first being under the command of Colonel Maitland, of the 32d Regiment, and consisting of that Regiment, commanded by Major Reid, and the 83d Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Colonel the Hon. Henry Dundas. The second Brigade was under the command of Lieut. Colonel Wetherall, of the Royal Regiment; and consisted

of the 2d Battalion of that Regiment, and the Montreal Rifles; Globenski's Volunteers having joined this Brigade at St. Martin, where they had been stationed for some days previous, along with Captain Birtwhistle's company of the 32d Regiment, Captain Tunstall's company of the Montreal Volunteer Militia, and a detachment of Volunteer Cavalry, under Captain Ermatinger, to protect Lachapelle's bridge, and to maintain a communication with head quarters. The Artillery, which consisted of six field pieces, was under the command of Major Jackson. Both Brigades were ordered to halt, and take up their quarters during the night at St. Martin, a village situated in the middle of Isle Jesus, on the direct route to St. Eustache, and twelve miles from Montreal. About two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, the Commander of the Forces also took his departure from head quarters, accompanied by His Excellency's Staff, and escorted by the Royal Montreal Cavalry and the Queen's Light Dragoons; resting with the expedition during the night at St. Martin. Thus, the whole disposable force, under the command of His Excellency, were assembled at this village, on their route to St. Eustache, the principal post of the rebels; instructions having been previously forwarded to Major Townshend, to march on the following day from Carrillon, on the Ottawa River, with a detachment of the 24th Regiment, and the volunteers of St. Andrews, Chatham and Grenville, towards St. Benoit.

During the absence of the expedition, the garrison

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duty of Montreal was entrusted to the companies of the 24th Regiment remaining in town, and the different volunteer corps of the city. About ten o'clock at night, of the 13th, intelligence had reached the city that a large body of rebels were marching upon Lachine, with the view, it was supposed, of seizing the arms deposited at that place for the Beauharnois volunteers, and then proceeding with them to attack Montreal, in the absence of the regular troops. The report gaining ground, an alarm was sounded through the city, and, in an incredibly short space of time, the whole volunteer force mustered in arms, and proceeded to meet the rebels in the direction whence they were expected, the leading battalion of volunteers marching to the Tanneries, three miles out of town); every man being resolved to do his duty, and give a good account of the enemy. But, to the great disappointment of the volunteers, the alarm proved to have been a false one; and they were reluctantly compelled, after being under arms during the most of the night, to retire into quarters, without being gratified with the sight of a rebel. Their conduct, however, was such as to reflect the greatest credit upon their officers and volunteers, all of whom evinced the best possible disposition, and, by their zeal, courage and activity, afforded ample evidence that the city had been perfectly safe in their keeping.

At eight o'clock in the morning of Thursday, the 14th, the Commander of the Forces left his quarters at St. Martin, and crossed the northern branch of the Ottawa River, on the ice, about three miles be-

low St. Eustache, with the two brigades, six field-pieces, the Montreal Volunteer Cavalry, and the Rifle corps; while Captain Globensky's company of volunteers attracted the attention of the rebels by marching in the direct route to St. Eustache, dislodging from the neighbouring woods, as they went along, some pickets of the rebels, and driving them in, or dispersing them. In marching up to St. Eustache, which is situated on the left bank of the river, the Light Company of the 32nd Regiment, with two guns, covered the advance of the troops. On a nearer approach, the rebels were seen crossing the ice in divisions to an island opposite the village, upon which orders were given by the Commander of the Forces that two guns should open a fire upon them, which had the effect of compelling them to retire into the village. The troops having again advanced in the same order to within six or seven hundred yards of the village, the guns took up a position, and opened a fire upon the Church and the adjacent buildings, the former appearing to be occupied by the insurgents in considerable force. Shortly afterwards, agreeably to the directions of His Excellency, Colonel Maitland changed the direction of the first brigade, under his command, to the right, the 32nd Regiment leading, covered by its Light Company, and followed by the 83rd Regiment, with the view of securing the roads and bridges on the opposite side of the village, leading to the St. Benoit road, where it was supposed the rebels would eventually make a stand. By this movement the troops forming this division were placed within musket

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shot of the village, and found great difficulty in advancing, owing to the ruggedness of the ploughed fields, the depth of the snow, and the strong fences which they had to break through. They, however, exerted themselves to the utmost, and, having taken possession of the roads and bridges, succeeded in capturing a number of prisoners, who were running in great confusion from the village. The object of Colonel Maitland having been so far accomplished, he left a detachment of the 83rd Regiment to secure the passes, and pushed in advance with the whole of the 32nd Regiment towards the Church, and occupied some houses close to it, on the south west side of the village. After remaining in this position for some time, firing on the rebels in the Church, Colonel Maitland found it necessary to withdraw from his advanced situation, in consequence of his Regiment having been unavoidably exposed to the fire of the Artillery from the opposite side of the village, as well as to that of the rebels. But he detached the Grenadiers, and the first and second companies, to a favourable position, for the purpose of intercepting any of the rebels who might attempt to escape from the Church; and in the performance of this duty they proved eminently successful, as, upon the taking of the Church, a number of the rebels fell under the fire of part of these companies.

Meanwhile, the second brigade, under Lieut. Col. Wetherall, in following the first, in their detour of the village for the purpose of cutting off the retreat of the rebels by the St. Benoit road, and on arriving opposite to the centre of the village, were di-

rected by the Commander of the Forces to enter at this point. They did so, and having advanced up the main street, leading to the front of the Church, occupying the most defensible houses, and meeting with no opposition, Colonel Wetherall reported the circumstances to the Lieutenant General, who desired him to detach an officer to bring up the Artillery. In endeavouring to execute this duty, the officer was driven back by the fire from the Church. The Artillery entered the village by the rear, and, at a distance of two hundred and eighty yards, opened a fire on the Church door, while some companies of the Royal Regiment, and the Rifles, occupied the houses near the Church. After about an hour's firing, and the Church door still remaining unforced, a party of the Royal Regiment assaulted the Presbytère, killed some of the defenders and set it on fire. The smoke soon enveloped the Church, and the remainder of the battalion advanced. A straggling fire was opened on them from the Seigneur's house, (Mr. Dumont's,) forming one face of the square in which the Church stood. Colonel Wetherall directed the grenadiers to carry this house, which they immediately did; killing several of the rebels, taking many prisoners, and setting it on fire. At the same time, another party of the Royals, commanded by Major Warde, and led by Mr. Gagy as a volunteer, entered the Church by the rear, and captured and dislodged its garrison, setting the Church itself on fire. In these assaults one hundred and eighteen prisoners were taken. The conduct of Lieutenant Ormsby, of the

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Royals, who narrowly escaped from being killed, as he entered the building, a pistol having been discharged at him, by a rebel standing within a few feet of him, was very conspicuous, and deserving of the report made with respect to it by his commanding officer. Mr. Gugy was severely wounded; and the Royal Regt. had one man killed and four wounded; but no other casualty occurred in the second brigade. The 82d Regiment had only one private wounded. Of the Royal Artillery, one corporal and two privates, were wounded. The soldiers as usual conducted themselves with unswerving steadiness and coolness, and showed great forbearance to the captured rebels. The services of the Volunteer Cavalry, Queen's Light Dragoons, and Volunteer Rifles, all of Montreal, and Globenski's Volunteers, (mostly composed of loyalists driven from St. Eustache and its neighbourhood, by the rebels,) were found particularly useful.

The actual loss of the rebels on this occasion it has been impossible to ascertain; but it is supposed to have been very great, and that nearly two hundred of them fell victims to their folly, from the fire and charges of the troops, or were suffocated in the flames of the different buildings which had been fired, and from which they had defended themselves. Upwards of twenty bodies were found in the church yard, and in the garden attached to the nunnery; and forty were killed in attempting to make their escape into the woods. Dr. J. O. Chenier, one of their leaders, was killed near the Church; and Girod, Peltier, and other leaders, are

reported to have made their escape immediately after the first fire from the troops, on pretence of going to the rear to bring up reinforcements. The number of houses destroyed was very considerable, the blaze was distinctly seen on high ground in the neighbourhood of Montreal, a distance of twenty-one miles from St. Eustache. The houses left uninjured were taken possession of by the troops, for their quarters during the night.

On the morning of the 15th, Globensky's corps having been left at St. Eustache, in charge of the prisoners, the whole of the remainder of the force, under the orders of His Excellency the Lieutenant General, marched to St. Benoit, which is twelve miles distant from the late scene of action, and where they arrived about twelve o'clock. During the march, the Commander of the Forces was met by delegates bearing flags of truce from the rebels, and stating that they were prepared to lay down their arms unconditionally. On the line of march, similar tokens were exhibited in rags of something white from almost every house, and none of the inhabitants were the least molested. When the expedition arrived at St. Benoit, the Lieutenant General fixed his head quarters at the house of Girouard, one of the insurgent chiefs, and opposite to which His Excellency found about two hundred and fifty of the rebels drawn up in line, suing for pardon, and stating that their leaders had deserted them. Their request was readily complied with, and, after they had given up their arms, they were dismissed to their homes and occupations. Girouard had

made his escape the preceding day, but he was seized a few days afterwards, and surrendered himself, to Mr. Simpson of Colerain du Lac, having vainly attempted to cross over to the United States, and was conveyed a prisoner to Montreal. The entrenchments of the rebels at St. Benoit were destroyed, as well as the houses of the insurgents. On the 18th, His Excellency ordered Colonel Maitland to proceed to St. Scholastique, with the 32nd Regiment, two field pieces under the command of Captain Howell, Royal Artillery, and a detachment of the Queen's Light Dragoons; while the remainder of the troops were ordered to march by St. Eustache to Montreal; the Commander of the Forces also returning to that city in the afternoon of the same day, escorted by the Montreal Cavalry and the Queen's Light Dragoons.

It is but simple justice to His Excellency to state, in this place, that during his absence on this arduous and important expedition, he directed constant communication to be kept up with Lieutenant Colonel Hughes, the officer commanding at Montreal, detailing the operations of the troops, and which were immediately communicated to the public. In short, during the whole rebellion, His Excellency, in the spirit of his characteristic attention to the feelings of the community, never failed to make known throughout this city and Province, whatever important intelligence reached him as Commander of the Forces. This is another debt of gratitude which His Excellency has imposed upon the loyal inhabitants of both Provinces; and we

have no hesitation in asserting that it is deeply and sincerely felt.

On the same day, the 16th, the Montreal Rifles returned to town. Next day, at noon, the Royal Artillery, under Major Jackson, came in. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the Royal Regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Wetherall, marched in, amidst the acclamations of the citizens, bringing 105 prisoners along with them, among whom were Dumouchelle, of St. Benoit, and two leaders of the name of Major. And a few hours afterwards, the 83rd Regiment, under the command of the Hon. Lieut. Colonel Dundas, marched into town, greeted, in a similar manner, with the cheers of the inhabitants, who went out of town to meet the whole of their brave countrymen, and thus thank them for the services they had performed in putting down a most unjust and unnatural rebellion.

Meanwhile, Colonel Maitland, as we noticed, marched to St. Scholastique; and on approaching the village, was met by about three hundred men with white flags, desiring to be permitted to surrender themselves unconditionally, and to deposit with Colonel Maitland about fifty stand of arms and some ammunition. On entering the village, Col. Maitland saw several groups of *habitans* from different parts of the parish, amounting to about five or six hundred persons. They all appeared to be very humble, and received the troops with frequent cheers for the Queen. Colonel Maitland remained in this village during the night, and marched the following morning to St. Thérèse, where he halted

on the night of the 17th ; at which place also a number of arms were surrendered to him by the inhabitants. In the course of the evening, he received information that W. H. Scott, M.P.P., a rebel chief, for whose apprehension a reward of £500 had been offered, was concealed in a farm house, about five miles from the village. He immediately despatched five of the Queen's Light Dragoons, who were attached to the division, in search of Scott, and they succeeded in taking him prisoner. In his despatch, reporting this circumstance, Colonel Maitland stated, that the march of the troops under his command, from St. Scholastique to St. Thérèse, had been attended with the best effect. Their appearance had struck terror among the ill disposed, whilst it gave security to the loyal inhabitants, who had been pillaged and driven away from their property, and who were met, returning with joy, from all directions, to the possession of their houses. Colonel Maitland also observed that he found the dragoons extremely zealous and useful, and hoped that the Lieutenant General would recommend them to the Governor in Chief for the reward offered for the apprehension of Scott. He had much pleasure in adding, that the troops had conducted themselves well, not having committed the smallest depredation upon any of the inhabitants. Colonel Maitland marched from St. Thérèse to St. Martin; and arrived at head quarters amidst the cheers of the inhabitants, who lined the streets, at half-past one o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, the 19th of December.

Major Townsend returned to his quarters at Carillon, on the night of the 16th.

We conclude this part of our narrative with the following extracts from Sir John Colborne's despatch to Major General Lord Fitzroy Somerset, dated the 22nd of December:—

"The good results of these movements have been proved by the return of the peasantry to their useful occupations, and the disappearance of armed parties of the rebels.

"It is scarcely possible to suppose that the loyal and peaceable subjects whose property had been pillaged, and who had so recently suffered from the outrages committed by the rebels of Grand Brulé and the River du Chêne, a population of the worst character, could be prevented, on being liberated from their oppressors, from committing acts of violence at St. Benoit.

"The several departments under my orders have at this critical period, by their great exertions, enabled me to assemble the troops promptly.

"I have to assure the General Commanding in Chief, that from the time that the rebels appeared in position, no opportunity has been lost in attacking them constantly, as soon as a sufficient force could be collected to march against them, without exposing or leaving unprotected the important stations of Montreal, Chambly, St. Johns and Sorel.

"I have received on every occasion a zealous assistance from the Deputy Adjutant-General, Lieutenant-Colonel Eden, and the Deputy Quartermaster-General, Colonel Gore, and the Officers of my personal Staff, and from Captain Foster, Royal Engineers, and Majors Jackson and Macbean, Royal Artillery, and the respective officers.

"The Commissary-General has, by his able arrangements, greatly facilitated the movement of the troops in this district, and of the reinforcement on the march from New Brunswick.

"On my return from the county of the Lake of Two Mountains, I ordered part of the 24th Regiment to proceed in sleighs to Kingston and Toronto. I find, however, from my reports from Toronto, that the loyal Upper Canadians are fully prepared to defend their institutions, and to insure the preservation of public peace, without the aid of Her Majesty's troops.

"I cannot close this dispatch without mentioning that all the corps of volunteers of Montreal have occasionally taken the duties of the garrison, and thus enabled me to leave the town under their protection.

"From the reports and communications from every district, order has been restored."

On the night of the 4th of December, 1837, the inhabitants of the city of Toronto were alarmed by the intelligence, that a body of about five hundred armed insurgents were approaching the city—that they had murdered Colonel Moodie,* a gallant officer, and highly respectable gentleman, while proceeding to Toronto, with intelligence of the designs of the rebels—and that they had made

* Colonel Moedje was a man of active habits and a vigorous frame, and from long residence with the Army in Canada, previous to the general peace in 1816, was well inured to the climate, and acquainted with the country and people. Colonel Moodie was a native of West Fife.* He entered the army early in life, and served in many of the severest campaigns in the late war. He was with Sir Ralph Abercrombie in Egypt, and was then a Captain in the 51st—a Regiment which was so dreadfully cut to pieces amongst the sand hills, that of a few who survived, scarcely one escaped unwounded. His transatlantic service precluded him from earning the glories of Waterloo. Having attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, in the 104th, he served in Canada during the short American war of 1813, and having been conspicuous in many minor affairs with the enemy, was distinguished at the battle of Queenston in the summer of 1814. Having retired from the Army, he became a resident in St. Andrews, for the sake of the education of his family, in 1822, and continued there till he left for Canada, in April, 1835.

The following gracious and kind expression of Her Majesty's sympathy with the bereaved family of the late Colonel Moodie, has been communicated to the widow by Sir George Arthur: and, in the midst of their distress for the loss of their late sup-

several loyal subjects prisoners. The avowed object of the insurgents was, in the first place, to burn the city of Toronto, to rob the banks, to plunder the inhabitants, to murder the Lieutenant Governor, and all the Government and Municipal officers; and then to proclaim the independence of the Province. There were no regular troops at this critical period in Toronto, nor in any part of Upper Canada, in consequence, as we have seen, of their having been drafted away into Lower Canada, by mutual agreement between Sir John Colborne, and Sir Francis Head. But in a few hours after the alarm to which

porter and protector, must have proved gratifying to the afflicted relatives of that gallant soldier:—

{ GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
April 3, 1838.

MADAM,—I have the honour to transmit to you, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, an extract of a despatch which His Excellency has recently received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which His Excellency is directed to convey to you the expression of Her Majesty's sympathy for the lamented loss of Colonel Moodie, a loss which, I am desired to assure you, no individual in the Colony more deeply regrets than His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. I have the honour to be, Madam, your most obedient humble servant,

J. JOSEPH.

Mrs. Moodie.

"The Queen has learned with deep concern the murder of Colonel Moodie, in his endeavour to apprise the Executive Government of the preparations which were in progress among the insurgents; and I am commanded to convey through you to Colonel Moodie's family, the expression of Her Majesty's sympathy with their loss."

In addition to this, the Legislature of Upper Canada has settled an annual pension of £100 upon Mrs. Moodie for life.

we have alluded reached Toronto, a devoted and respectable, though undisciplined force, was collected and armed in self-defence, and awaited the threatened attack. The insurgents, however, failed to carry their intentions into execution, intelligence having reached them that the inhabitants of Toronto were informed of their movements, and had determined to give them the reception which insurgents and plunderers deserved at the hands of loyal and well-affected subjects. Meanwhile, news of the insurrection having been spread through various parts of Upper Canada, the people poured into Toronto from all quarters, with the view of opposing the insurgents, who obtained no increase of numbers; but, on the contrary, were deserted by many of their body, in consequence of the acts of devastation and plunder into which they had been forced by their leaders. Thus an overwhelming force was collected at Toronto; and, on the 7th of December, marched against the insurgents, under the immediate command of Sir Francis Head. The insurgents were attacked by the loyalists, and dispersed without the loss of a man. Many of them were taken prisoners—some of them surrendered themselves to justice—and their leaders fled in all directions.

It was ascertained about this time, that a similar insurrectionary disposition had been manifested in the District of London; and it was discovered that about three hundred persons had there been assembled in arms, under Dr. Duncombe, a native of the United States, and a Member of the Provincial

Parliament, who, shortly before, had gone to England on a grievance mission, and complaint against the local Government. A Militia force of about four hundred men was immediately sent into that District, where it was joined by all the loyal inhabitants. The consequence was, that the rebels dispersed and fled—some of them submitting themselves to Government, declaring that they had been deceived and misled.

After the dispersion of the insurgents, both in the neighbourhood of Toronto, and in the District of London, it was discovered that Mackenzie, the chief instigator of the revolt, and leader of the insurgents, had escaped in disguise to the Niagara river, and crossed over to Buffalo. Immediately upon his arrival at Buffalo, public meetings were held, having for their avowed object the invasion of Canada, by an armed force, composed of the citizens of a country with which we were at peace, and of establishing in these Provinces of the British dominions, what was termed by the insurgents and brigands a Provisional Government, and a fully Republican Constitution. With this view, recruits were enlisted, volunteer companies organized, and arms, munitions, and provisions were supplied by contributions openly made. A din of deadly war resounded through the land; every brigand fancied himself a hero and a conqueror. Accordingly, on the 13th of December, some hundreds of the citizens of the State of New York, joined by about twenty desperate fugitives from the Province of Upper Canada, openly armed them-

selves, and invaded that Province by taking possession of Navy Island, where they intrenched themselves in opposition to the laws and authority of Great Britain. A few days afterwards, a Proclamation was issued "by order of the Committee of the Provisional Government," and signed by Mackenzie, as "Chairman, *pro tempore*," promising three hundred acres of the most valuable lands in Upper Canada, to each volunteer who might join the "Patriot Forces," encamped on Navy Island, and a hundred dollars in silver, payable on the first day of May, 1838. In a short time, this lawless band of pirates, for they can be called nothing else, obtained from the arsenals of the State of New York, by the connivance of those in charge, several pieces of artillery and other arms, which were openly transported to Navy Island, without any resistance from the American authorities. The people of Buffalo and the adjacent country continued to supply them with stores of various kinds, and additional men enlisted in their ranks. Their ultimate object was, of course, to effect a landing, in force, upon the Canadian main land. But in order to counteract such a movement, a body of Militia was hastily collected, and stationed on the frontier, first under the command of Colonel Kenneth Cameron, formerly of the 79th Highlanders, and subsequently under that of Colonel MacNab, Speaker of the House of Assembly, who received orders to act on the defensive only. Meanwhile the pirates opened a fire from several pieces of ordnance upon the Canadian shore, which is thickly settled in that

part of the country, and destroyed much property—the distance of Navy Island from the main land being only about six hundred yards. The pirates also fired repeatedly upon our boats. They still continued to receive supplies of men and warlike stores from the State of New York, which were chiefly embarked at a landing place on the American main shore, called Fort Schlosser, nearly opposite to Navy Island.

On the 28th of December, positive information had been given to Col. MacNab, that a small steamboat, called the *Caroline*, had been hired by the pirates on Navy Island, and was to be employed in carrying cannon and other stores, and in transporting men and provisions, from the shores of the United States to Navy Island. He resolved, if she came down and engaged in this service, to take and destroy her. She did come down, agreeably to the information he had received. She transported a piece of artillery and other stores to the island, and made repeated passages during the day between the island and the American main shore, appearing under British colours. Col. MacNab therefore determined upon cutting her out; and accordingly issued orders to Capt. Drew to proceed with a party of volunteers to execute his design. On the night of Friday the 29th of December, about nine o'clock, seven boats were manned for this purpose, having nine volunteers in each boat, commanded by an officer. The boats' crews consisted partly of hardy veterans who had retired from their country's service, but who, in the hour

of danger, once more flocked around its standard, and partly of spirited young men, determined to follow the example of their seniors in defence of their rights and the honour of their country. The boats left Chippewa about ten at night, and pulled up stream along the bank; but finding it too tedious and fatiguing for his brave fellows, Capt. Drew ordered them to get on shore and tow the boats. When the boats had in this manner ascended the river to near the place called "The Chippewa battle ground," Capt. Drew addressed the men, impressing upon them the necessity of silence and coolness in an expedition like that in which they were engaged. The word was then given to push off, an order that was obeyed with steadiness and alacrity. "And who," records the document from which we quote,* "amongst the boats' crews will forget that moment? It would be vain in me to attempt to describe it: those only who have been in hair-breadth 'scapes can understand the feelings of the gallant band. The Falls of Niagara, a mile and a half below, on the one side, and the daylight of the sentry's fire on the other, when we knew that one word spoken loudly would bring the guns to bear upon us; and that, on the other hand, a broken oar or a disabled boat would have sent us to explore that yet unfathomed deep, the Falls of Niagara!" It was expected that the *Caroline* would have been found moored off Navy Island; but she had left the sta-

* A communication in the *Sobourgh Star*, signed "A Volunteer belonging to the Boats."

then there, and returned to Schlosser, whither the boats proceeded in pursuit of her, the crews pulling as quietly as they could up the creek. Upon approaching the Caroline, Capt. Drew's boat was challenged by the watch on board, but no reply was made. The sentry, probably imagining that it might be a friendly boat from Navy Island, appeared not to have been alarmed at no answer being made to his challenge. Perceiving the boats, however, dropping close alongside, he again sung out; but receiving no satisfactory answer, the truth burst upon him, and he fired his musket; but without injury to any one. The Caroline was then immediately boarded, Capt. Drew being the first man who planted his foot upon her deck. The combat was fierce but short, and nothing was heard but the clash of arms. Capt. M'Cormack was fired upon, and the ball passed through his left arm; but he cleft the skull of the pirate with his cutlass, and we believe the unfortunate wretch was the only individual killed in the attack. Capt. Warren was also severely wounded, from behind, whilst engaged hand to hand with an enemy in front. The Caroline being now completely deserted by the pirates, Capt. Drew gave orders for unmooring her and setting her on fire; having previously searched every part of the vessel, and found that there was no enemy on board of her. Immediately upon accomplishing their object, Capt. Drew and his party returned to Chippewa, where their friends held out a light to direct their course, and where they were received amidst the hearty cheering of

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their comrades in arms. Meanwhile the burning steamboat glided into the current, and was carried down the stream with great rapidity, a blazing column of lurid light, until quenched in the foam and enveloped in the thunder of Niagara !*

* The grandeur and sublimity of this scene, is so happily and beautifully expressed in the following stanzas, extracted from a poem by Mrs. Susanna Moodie, of Upper Canada, upon "The Burning of the Carolina," that we have infinite satisfaction in giving them a place in this note, as the best description which we can present to our readers of a grand spectacle, to an ample description of which, we find our own powers to be totally inadequate:—

From yonder murky shore,
What demon vessel glides,
Stemming the unstemm'd tides?—
Where madd'ning breakers roar.
In hostile surges, round her path,
Or hiss recoiling from her prow,
That, reeling, staggers to their wrath;
Whilst distant shores return the glow
That brightens from her burning frame,
And all above, around, below,
Is wrapt in ruddy flame!

Sail on! sail on! no mortal hand
Directs that vessel's blazing course!—
The vengeance of an injured land
Impels her with resistless force.
'Midst breaking wave and fiery gleam,
O'er-canopied with clouds of smoke,
Midway she stems the raging stream,
And feels the rapid's thundering stroke;
Now buried deep, now whirl'd on high,
She struggles with her awful doom;
With frantic speed, now hurries by
To find a watery tomb!

Lo! poised upon the topmost surge,
She shudders o'er the dark abyss,
The foaming waters round her hiss,
And hoarse waves ring her funeral dirge;
The chafing billows round her close:
But, ere her burning planks are riven,
Shoots up one ruddy spout of fire—
Her last farewell to earth and heaven—
Down, down to endless night she goes.
So may the traitor's hope expire,—
So perish all our country's foes!

The Governor of the State of New York pretended to consider this destruction of the *Caroline* as an invasion of the territory of the United States, notwithstanding the obvious necessity of the act; but the British Government promptly assumed the responsibility of it, and, in a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department to the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, His Excellency was commanded to convey to Col. MacNab, the Commander of the Militia force on the Niagara frontier, and by whose express orders the *Caroline* was seized and destroyed, Her Majesty's gracious approbation of his services, and Her Majesty's satisfaction at the courage, spirit and ability which he displayed in the transactions in which he was concerned on the frontier: thus approving, in as positive terms as approbation could be expressed, of the destruction of the *Caroline*, notwithstanding the complaints of the Local and General Governments of the United States. Nor is this all: the honour of Knighthood was conferred upon Col. MacNab by his Sovereign, as a token of Her Majesty's approbation of his services; an honour well bestowed and meritoriously earned.

It is only necessary to add, that the rebels and brigands assembled on Navy Island, unable to withstand the cannonade opened upon them from the main land of the British shore, on the 12th and 13th of January, found it necessary to evacuate their position on the island, and to disperse in various directions on the frontier of the United States.

In the sister Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the most enthusiastic support was offered to the struggling loyalists of Canada; and the Lieutenant-Governors, in their animated appeals to their respective Legislatures, and the answers of these honourable bodies, only echoed the warm feelings of the people. Thanks were voted, by the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia, to Sir Francis Head, to Col. MacNab, and the Militia of Upper Canada, for their gallant conduct in crushing in its infancy the rebellious attempt in Upper Canada, and in exhibiting a noble example of the spirit with which Her Majesty's North American subjects were determined to preserve their connexion with their Mother Country, and to put down all endeavours to weaken or destroy it.

We cannot omit to mention in this place, that the manner in which the inhabitants of Halifax, and almost the whole of Nova Scotia, entered into voluntary subscriptions for the support of the wives and families of the soldiers who had been marched off from that Province, in the midst of winter, to put down rebellion in Canada, reflected the greatest credit upon their humanity and munificence; and will be a lasting memorial of their loyalty, as well as of their veneration for those institutions, civil and religious, by which alone British subjects can be rendered truly free and permanently happy.

Early in January intelligence of this gallant spirit reached this Province, and the natural consequence was the infusion of new vigor into the arms of the already determined supporters of the

dignity of the Crown and the rights of the people. The struggle of the Anarchists was now, however, altogether hopeless.

It was generally understood along the frontiers of Upper Canada, that a large body of the brigands, who were compelled to evacuate Navy Island, had proceeded to the State of Michigan, and assembled in the neighbourhood of Detroit, where they collected a quantity of arms and other military stores, and endeavoured to organize an army of what they denominated "Patriots," with the view of invading the Western District of Upper Canada. Here they were said to have collected a motley force of from a thousand to twelve hundred men, the nature and object of whose intended expedition against the loyal inhabitants of the Sister Province was made manifest by the Proclamations of their Commander in Chief, Sutherland—a sample of which we here transcribe:—

PROCLAMATION.

TO THE PATRIOTIC CITIZENS OF UPPER CANADA.

You are called upon by the voice of your bleeding country to join the patriot forces, and free your land from tyranny. Hordes of worthless parasites of the British Crown are quartered upon you to devour your substance—to outrage your rights—to let loose upon your defenceless wives and daughters a brutal soldiery.

Rally then around the standard of Liberty, and victory and a glorious future of independence will be yours.

THOMAS J. SUTHERLAND,
Brigade General,

Commanding 2nd Division Patriot Army, U. C.

Head Quarters, 2nd Division,
Bois Blanc, U. C., January 9th, 1838. }

PROCLAMATION.

TO THE DELUDED SUPPORTERS OF BRITISH TYRANNY IN UPPER CANADA.

You are required to lay down your arms, and return quietly to your homes. The Patriot army of Upper Canada desire not bloodshed. We fight only for liberty, and personal and public safety.

Your persons and property shall be protected, all your private rights preserved to you, your homes secured, your possessions untouched, on condition that you yield up your weapons and return to your accustomed occupations.

You are now enjoying a moiety of liberty, vouchsafed to you from motives of caprice or interest on the part of your rulers. We will secure to you all the blessings of freedom by a permanent and honorable tenure.

Avoid then the horrors of war. Enlarge not soldiers already oppressed by oppression. Save yourselves from confiscation. Cease resistance, and all will be well with you.

THOMAS J. SUTHERLAND,
Brigadier General,

Commanding 2nd Division Patriot Army, U. C.
Head Quarters, 2nd Division,
Bois-Blanc, U. C., January 10th, 1838.

This worthy, styled himself "Brigadier General, Commanding 2d Division, Patriot Army, U. C.," and is said to have led a loose and wandering life, assuming, by turns, any occupation or employment capable of affording him the scanty means of a dissolute existence. He was a native of the United States, and his original trade is said to have been that of a printer, which sufficiently accounts for the tolerable correctness of the composition of his official documents and despatches, if we may be permitted so to term them. Next in command of this horde of plunderers, was a man of the name of Theller, who had assumed to himself the style and

title of "Brigadier General;" and who seems to have been the most active and enterprising of the two chief officers of the invading army. He was a British subject, and was born in Ireland; but after residing for some time in the Colonies, he finally emigrated to the United States, where he endeavoured to establish himself in business, principally as a medical practitioner, being generally designated as "Doctor Theller." At the period he was metamorphosed into a General, he kept an extensive grocery store in Detroit; and did all in his power, it is said, to render his establishment subservient to the nefarious traffic in which he had engaged, as a leader of brigands and mercenary plunderers. The more subordinate officers of this body of marauders, consisted of a "Colonel" Mackinney, a theatrical amateur and manager of Detroit; a "Colonel" Dodge, and a "Captain" Davis, of the Infantry, and "Colonel" Brophey of the Engineers; and, withal, to use the words of Sutherland, in a despatch to Van Rensselaer; "Commander in Chief of the Patriot Forces of Upper Canada," "many other gallant and spirited officers; all of whom were gentlemen of character, possessing high notions of honour and integrity, heart and soul in our cause, and of the highest promise!"

On the 7th of January, Sutherland, to use his own expressions, found himself "at the head of a very respectable and gallant band of armed Patriots, ready to do or die." With this force, early in the morning of the 9th, Sutherland, by means of an

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armed schooner, called the *Anne*, and a few boats, contrived to effect a landing on the island of Bois Blanc, in the River Detroit and in British waters, where, if possible, it was his intention to have established himself. This island, according to the description of Major Townshend, is situated about a third of a mile from the town of Amherstburgh, is covered with small brushwood, and is only accessible for the purpose of landing at two points, viz: immediately in front of the town, and on the opposite side, where the banks are low and shelving for the space of a hundred yards or more. To this we may add, that the channel, between Bois Blanc and the Canadian shore, is deep and navigable for large vessels; while the western or the Michigan channel, is shallow, and filled with small islands.

Having gained possession of this island, the next object of the pirates was to effect a landing on the main-land of the Canadian shore; and with this view they despatched the armed schooner *Anne*, under the command of Theller, to batter the town of Amherstburgh. After having cruised for some time up and down the river, between the island and the town, she, at last, and as it began to get dark, neared the Canadian shore. On receiving information of this, Colonel Radcliffe, commanding in the Western District, reinforced his guards and pickets, solely composed of the loyal inhabitants of Amherstburgh and its neighbourhood, and called the garrison, if so it may be termed, to arms. By this time the piratical schooner again passed the town, into which she threw some round shot and

grape; and Colonel Radcliffe, fearing that she would land an armed force at a place called the Point, opposite to the Light House on Bois Blanc, ordered his men to proceed in that direction, where he had before taken the precaution of placing a guard, reinforced by an outlying picket. The schooner then came close up to the shore, and commenced firing grape and round-shot, as well as musketry. Upon this the Militia opened a brisk fire upon her; and, running aground, she was immediately boarded, although the men were but indifferently armed, and up to their necks in the water. While in the act of boarding, the Militia found Theller re-loading a six-pounder; Captain Lang boldly approached the gun, and took the cartridge out of its mouth; while, at the same time, Captain Ironside, of the Militia, pulled down the flag of the schooner; and thus the *Anne* was gallantly boarded and captured by a few brave militia volunteers imperfectly armed, but who were determined that no foreign foe should plant his foot upon their soil with impunity. Besides Theller, twenty pirates were found on board, one of whom had been killed, and three wounded. The schooner was armed with three pieces of cannon; and about two hundred stand of small arms and other munitions of war, as well as some stores, were found on board of her; all of which being secured, and the prisoners brought ashore, she was set on fire. Among the prisoners, besides Theller, were Dodge, Davis, Brophy, and others.

Sutherland, finding that his position at Bois

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Blanc had been rendered untenable by the failure of Theller's attack upon Amherstburgh and the capture of his armed schooner, deemed it prudent to evacuate the island, and to effect a retreat into the Michigan territory. So disastrous a termination of this expedition of the American brigands for the invasion and conquest of Canada, seems to have inspired the authorities of Detroit with some sense of their duty as preservers of international peace and harmony; and accordingly we find, that two days afterwards, upon the appearance of Sutherland and Mackinney in that city, they were both arrested on a charge of contravening the laws of the United States, in lending aid to a rebel party; but although Mackinney was bound over to appear on some future occasion, Sutherland was set at liberty, on pretence as it was asserted, of there being no evidence to authorize his detention or commitment.

Meanwhile Theller and his fellow prisoners were conveyed from place to place, and finally to Toronto. There Theller, being a British subject, was tried for high treason before the Court of High Commission and Oyer and Terminer, convicted, and ordered to be executed on the 24th of April. When brought up to receive sentence, he addressed the Court at great length in arrest of judgment. He contended that he was an alien and not a British subject, and consequently not amenable to the jurisdiction of the Court before which he had been tried. He stated that the law under which he had been tried, was unjust, tyrannical, and barbarous.

the relic of olden times, six centuries ago. He also maintained, that he could not be guilty of high treason against Great Britain or her Colonies, being a citizen of the United States, and having renounced his allegiance sixteen years before, by a solemn oath in open Court; forgetting, however, that a British subject can never, under any circumstances, renounce or divest himself of his allegiance to his Sovereign. Theller concluded by praying for time to enable him to lay his case before Her Majesty's Government in England. Whether his request was granted, we know not; but he was shortly afterwards reprieved, and his sentence was finally commuted to transportation. For that purpose he was conveyed, along with certain other prisoners convicted of similar offences, to Quebec, and strictly confined to the citadel of that celebrated fortress; from which, however, both himself and Dodge contrived to effect their escape in the month of November, and, by the preconcerted aid and connivance of some disaffected persons at Quebec, to find their way back into the United States, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance on the part of both the civil and military authorities. Of his singular escape Theller has published a long account, which, although it deals somewhat in the marvellous, is said to contain many authentic facts. Immediately upon his arrival in the United States, he resumed his old profession of a brigand, and became an itinerant lecturer in the great cause of "sympathy." Having said so much of this bandit, we may be permitted to add, that he has all the appearance of one.

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He is short in stature, but stoutly made. His countenance is round and dark, with eyes that at once display the character and propensities of a bold, reckless, and insolent marauder, without compunction or the smallest spark of generosity.

It is here incumbent upon us to state, that up to this period, being the middle of the month of January, and even to the very day of the departure of the Earl of Gosford from the Province, Addresses continued to be presented to his Lordship from the French Canadians, expressive of their loyalty, and attachment to Her Majesty's person and government, and their desire to perpetuate the connexion so happily subsisting between the Province and the Mother Country. These Addresses were estimated at the time by the truly loyal inhabitants of the Province, at their proper value ; knowing, as they did, that they could be of no importance whatever, except to an individual like Lord Gosford, who had so deeply involved himself in the meshes of the Canadian faction, that he mistook an avowal of loyalty, no matter from what source it came, for the real sentiment, and foolishly enough imagined, that this parchment loyalty would be sufficient to shield his weak and injudicious policy from contumely, and his reputation from obloquy. They also knew that those, who had recently and of a sudden become so vociferous in their loyalty, did not, in fact, know the real intent and meaning of the word ; that many of them had, not long before, been in arms against the Sovereign, to whom they had vowed unalterable attachment ; and that the time might not be far

distant, when they should once more exchange the pen of attached and obedient subjects for the exterminating sword of traitors and rebels. The event has fully justified the surmise, as we shall find in the sequel of these annals.

On Sunday, the 21st of January, the waters of the River St. Lawrence suddenly rose so high as to inundate a great portion of the city and suburbs of Montreal. The whole of St. Paul Street, Grifflintown, the Recollect, and part of the St. Antoine Suburbs, were covered with water to the depth of several feet; and in this vicinity, the river was not known to have risen so high since 1787. Many houses were consequently abandoned, and the occupiers of others were obliged to take refuge in the upper apartments. Almost all the streets which had been thus overflowed, were traversed in boats and canoes, and several ferries established from one place to another. Next day, however, the water was frozen over, and the ice became sufficiently strong to admit of travelling by trains and carioles. Much and irreparable loss of property was sustained from the inundation. Many poor families were not only driven from their humble homes, but lost their all; and had not the charitable disposition of their more fortunate fellow-citizens been promptly interposed in their behalf, many lives might also have been lost. Nearly £400 were collected for this purpose, and judiciously expended in procuring lodgings, fire and provisions for the destitute sufferers, until they should be otherwise provided for, or enabled to return to their own deluged houses.

On the 4th of February, about three hundred of the Glengarry Highlanders, under the command of Col. D. Macdonell, marched into Montréal from Upper Canada, escorted by the Queen's Light Dragoons, the Rifles, and the Light Infantry, who, early in the day, had gone out to meet their loyal fellow-volunteers. They were preceded by the band of the Royals, and the pipers of the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal, alternately playing appropriate national airs. -Next day, another body of the same hardy sons of the North, consisting of about five hundred, under the command of Col. Alexander Fraser, marched into town, escorted in a similar manner by the Lachine troop of cavalry, and the band of the 83rd Regiment. Both parties made a formidable appearance, and were heartily welcomed and cheered by hundreds of our fellow-citizens. As soon as both battalions were suitably clothed and armed, they were marched to the frontier, where they continued to do duty as regular forces till the latter end of April; when they returned to their homes, after having performed the service required of them in a manner which reflected great credit upon their loyalty and discipline.

On the 19th of February, subscription lists were opened in Montreal, for presenting a testimony of the gratitude of the inhabitants to Col. Wetmore, of the Royal Regiment, for his judicious conduct at St. Charles, as more particularly described in our account of the taking of that place in November, 1837, after having been fortified by the rebels; conduct, the moral effect of which was productive

of as much benefit to the Province, as the exploit itself will reflect lustre on the British arms. A few days after these lists were opened, they were filled up to the amount required, we believe, of about £400; and, at a meeting of the subscribers, it was agreed that a piece of plate should be presented to the gallant Colonel. Orders were immediately transmitted to London, for the manufacture of it; and was formed in the shape of a grand candelabrum, the plinth of which is supported by a grenadier of the Royals, an artilleryman, and one of the Montreal Volunteer Cavalry. Below, on one side, is a highly-finished chasing, representing the attack upon St. Charles; on the second, the arms of Col. Wetherall; and on the third, the following inscription: "To G. A. Wetherall, K.H., Lieut.-Col. 2nd Batt. 1st Royal Regiment, the Loyalists of Canada present this Testimonial of Gratitude, for his important service to the great cause of British connexion, in the defeat of the rebels at St. Charles, on the 25th November, 1837; to which, by its moral influence, may be mainly ascribed, under Providence, the speedy arrest of insurrectionary movement: and of admiration of his wisdom in conduct, his gallantry in action, and his mercy in victory." This magnificent piece of plate was shipped on board the bark *Colborne*, Captain Kent, which sailed from London on the 30th of August, bound for Quebec and Montreal, with a very valuable cargo and several passengers. The *Colborne* experienced a continuation of adverse winds; but nothing of consequence happened until

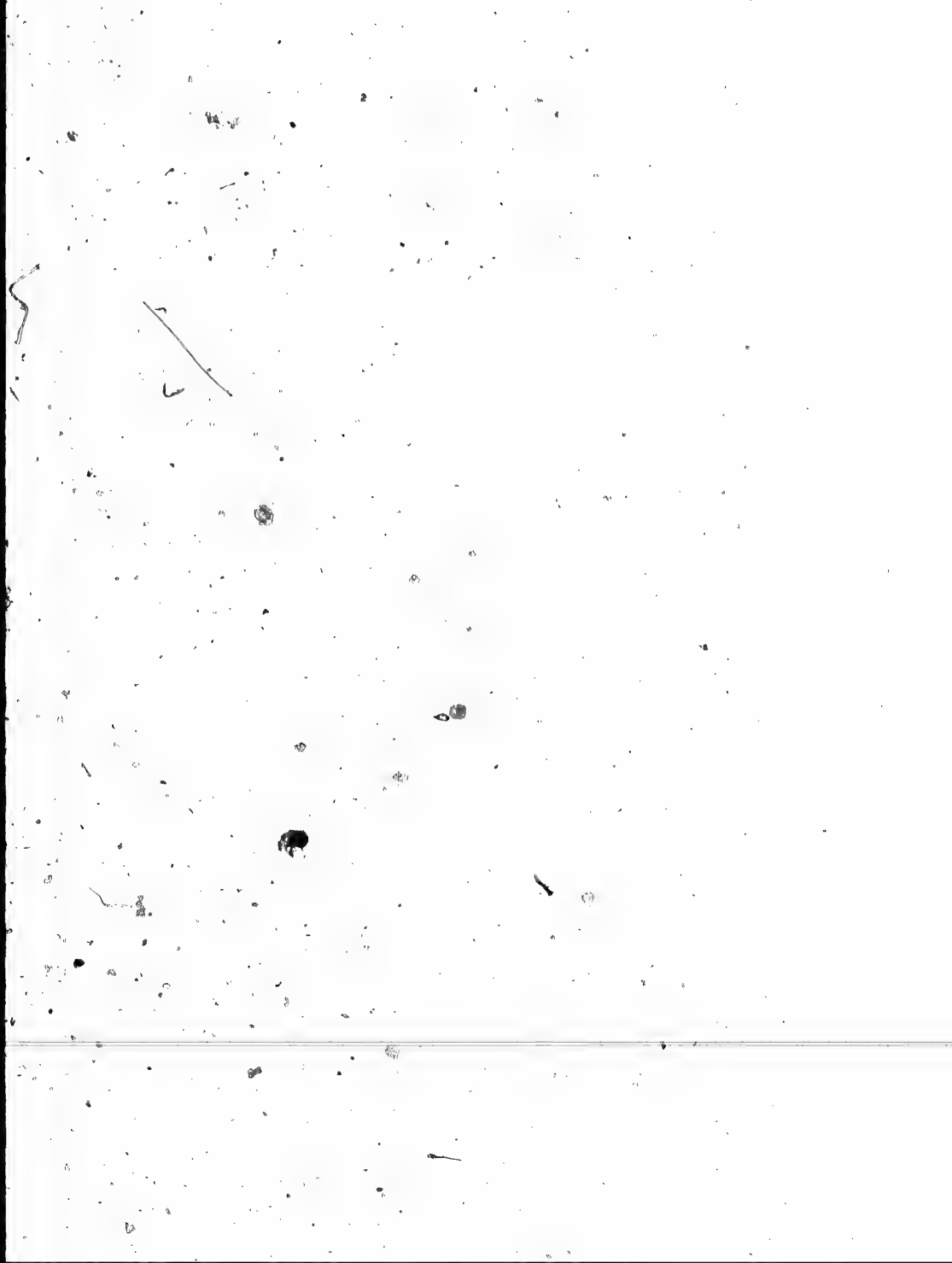
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the 16th of October, when the cry of "Breakers ahead!" was heard from the men who were at work on the foreyard; and, before her course could be altered, she struck on a rock at Macque-reaux, on the north side of the entrance to the Bay des Chaleurs, and in the course of the night was upset, burying in the deep the whole of the crew and passengers, consisting of fifty-four souls, with the exception of the second mate, eight of the hands, and three passengers. Some days afterwards, the Colborne was towed in shore, and among the articles which had drifted from the north side of the bay, from the wreck, a distance of about sixty miles, picked up by two of the French inhabitants, and promptly placed under the charge of Mr. Deblois of Bathurst, was the case containing the intended testimonial to Colonel Wetherall; the whole of which, strange to say, being discovered to be in a state of perfect preservation. As soon as the navigation of the St. Lawrence was open in spring, the valuable donation was forwarded to its destination, and forthwith presented to the gallant Colonel; as a just tribute to his meritorious conduct, from the loyal citizens of Montreal. That he may long and happily enjoy the possession of the grateful gift, is, we are sure, the sincere wish of every loyal subject in Lower Canada.

At this time, intelligence had been received in the Province, that the Earl of Gosford had been recalled from the Administration of the Government; and that His Excellency Sir John Colborne, the Commander of the Forces, had been appointed







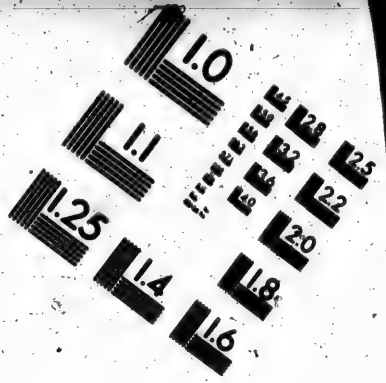
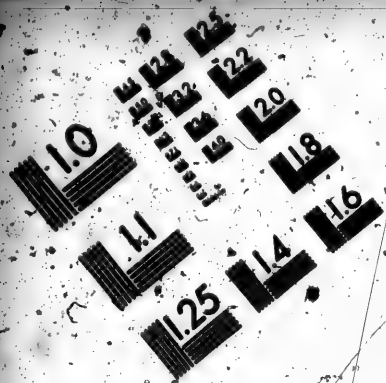
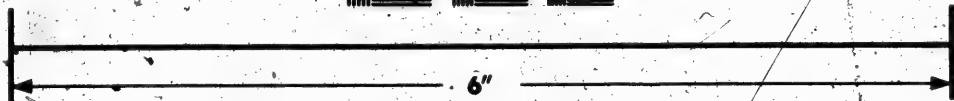
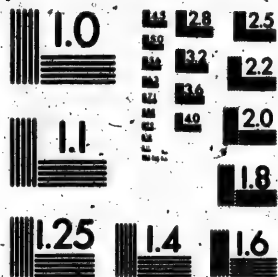


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to succeed his Lordship. It is unnecessary to recall to the minds of our readers, the joy which this intelligence diffused throughout all classes of the loyal inhabitants of the Province. The task which we have assumed to ourselves, is rather to record events than to express opinions; and therefore we shall not be tempted, on the present occasion, to draw an invidious distinction between Lord Gosford and the eminent and distinguished Officer by whom his Lordship was succeeded in the Administration of the Government, with the view of accounting for the spontaneous joy to which we have alluded. It is sufficient to observe, that, after discovering, at the latest possible period at which such a discovery could be made, that neither his own, nor the policy of the Imperial Government, by which his conduct had been regulated, was calculated to obviate or suppress the revolutionary projects of the House of Assembly, and its myrmidons and supporters without, Lord Gosford, in a despatch to the Colonial Secretary, dated as far back as the 8th of September, 1837, requested to be relieved from his station as Governor-in-Chief, in the following terms:—"My situation now is not an enviable one; and, on every private consideration, I shall gladly relinquish it. It is probable, and, indeed, reasonable, that, if matters here should come to extremities, you would prefer to have a man in my place who has not so avowedly declared his wish to carry on his government on the principle of conciliation." When the French-Canadians were about to assume arms in vindication of what they

factionously and preposterously asserted to have been their undoubted rights, it was certainly high time that the "principle of conciliation" here alluded to, should altogether be renounced by all parties; and accordingly we find that at a Cabinet Council held on the 28th of November, 1837, the recall of Lord Gosford from the Administration of the Government of this Province, was resolved upon; and this resolution was forthwith officially communicated both to his Lordship and to Sir John Colborne; the latter being informed, that, by the terms of the Commission of his predecessor, the provisional Administration of the Government would devolve upon His Excellency. Preparations were immediately made for the departure of Lord Gosford. An accident, however, detained him until the 27th February. His Lordship was accompanied to England by Mr. Walcott, his Private Secretary, and lady, by Lieut. Vivian, A.D.C., and by Mr. Engleback, who came out as an *attaché* to the Commission.

His Excellency Sir John Colborne, Commander of the Forces in the Canadas, was installed as Administrator of the Government, at the Government House, in the city of Montreal, with the usual formalities.* The appointment of Sir John Colborne

* As we believe Sir John Colborne was the first British Governor who was sworn in at Montreal, we subjoin a short account of the forms and ceremonies observed on the occasion :—

On Tuesday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, Sir John Colborne left his own residence, for the purpose of being sworn in as Administrator of the Government, at the Government-House.

to this high and important office, afforded universal satisfaction to the loyal inhabitants of the Province, who recognized in this act of Her Majesty's Ministers, symptoms of a return to sounder principles in the administration of the local Government. The character of the new Administrator, for consistency of conduct and liberality of sentiment, was well known; and there was every reason to believe, that the Administration of His Excellency in Lower Canada, would be characterized by that public bearing, and that strict adherence to constitutional rule, which had previously distinguished his conduct in similar offices and employments. For these reasons, the loyal inhabitants of the Province congratulated

His Excellency, attended by his staff, was also escorted by the Queen's Light Dragoons; and was received at the Government-House, by the Royal Montreal Cavalry, a guard of honor, consisting of the Grenadier Company of the 83d Regiment, and the Volunteer Rifles. In the apartment prepared for the Council Chamber, the following Members of Her Majesty's Executive Council, the Honorables John Stewart, Hughes Heney, Pierre D. Debartzsch, George Pemberton, Louis Panet, F. A. Quesnel and William Sheppard, with Mr. G. H. Ryland, Clerk Assistant, awaited His Excellency's arrival. The Council being formed, a letter was read from the Earl of Gosford, announcing his intended departure from the Province on the morning of that day, when, of course, the Administration of the Government would devolve upon Sir John Colborne. The usual oaths were then administered to His Excellency, and afterwards to the Executive Councillors. The ceremony of the installation having been completed, two Proclamations were approved of; and despatches from the Colonial Secretary read; after which, His Excellency returned to his own residence, escorted as before. The Royal Artillery, who were drawn up on the Champ de Mars, fired a salute when Sir John Colborne left his own house to be sworn in, and another when the ceremony had terminated.

themselves upon the auspicious event which had placed at the head of their distracted affairs, a good man, a distinguished officer, and the saviour, under Providence, of Lower Canada, from the final miseries of an unjustifiable and unnatural rebellion. In token of these sentiments, the city of Montreal, and various other towns and villages throughout the Province, were illuminated on the evening of the day, on which Sir John Colborne was sworn into office as Administrator of the Government—not less in grateful remembrance of his past services, than in lively anticipation of his future conduct both as Civil Governor and Military Commander. The city of Montreal, in particular, presented on this joyful occasion, a scene of splendour and magnificence which was never before witnessed in Lower Canada; and which reflected the highest credit upon the taste, and honour upon the loyalty and public spirit of the citizens. We observed at the time, that it is by spontaneous acts of this kind, the real sentiments and feelings of a whole people can be best demonstrated: and that, if it could be possible to convey to Her Majesty's Ministers even but a faint idea of the spectacle which this great and populous city presented on the night in question, it would read to them a lesson as to the future, which could not do otherwise than redound to their own honour and the glory of the Empire. The whole was a scene truly British in heart and spirit. The dark and gloomy vista of the past was forgotten, for a while, amidst the splendour that reigned around; and nothing was heard during the whole

evening, but the sound of innocent joy, national enthusiasm, and the most devoted loyalty to our beloved Queen and country. It is scarcely necessary to add, that Sir John Colborne never wavered in his public career, betrayed his trust, nor belied the anticipations of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in this Province.

About the 25th of February, information had reached head-quarters, at Montreal, that six or seven hundred of the rebels, who had quitted the Province in December, 1837, and who had for some weeks been cantoned at Champlain, Chazy, and Plattsburgh, in the United States, were actively employed in concentrating and equipping themselves for a movement towards the frontier, having been liberally supplied with arms and ammunition by their partizans in the States of New York and Vermont, taken, it was said, from the arsenal at Elizabethtown. They crossed Lake Champlain, accompanied by a numerous train of sleighs, with fifteen hundred stand of arms, ammunition and three field-pieces. They proceeded to Alburg, in Vermont, and entered the Province on the 28th, halting at Weeks' house, about a mile from the frontier-line. This body of the rebels were chiefly Canadian *habitans* from the Counties of L'Acadie and Laprairie; and were commanded by Dr. Robert Nelson, late of Montreal, and Dr. Cote, of Napierville—two refugee rebel leaders, who had never ceased to use their utmost exertions to involve their native country in the miseries of internal commotion—whom experience cannot reach, whom mis-

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fortune cannot soften, and whose folly, as insurgent chiefs, could only have been surpassed by their personal cowardice, and their treachery to those ignorant and deluded men who were induced to confide in them.

It is very evident that this incursion into the Province formed a part of a series of combined movements, which, about this time, was made along the whole northern frontier of the United States by rebels and brigands, with the view of attacking various points in both Provinces. This is, indeed, satisfactorily proved by the almost simultaneous attacks, which, towards the latter end of February, were made upon Upper and Lower Canada, of which it will be our duty to record a sketch, and of the letter which we subjoin, in a note, from Dr. Nelson himself, to a person of the name of Ryan, no doubt, a rebel partizan, ready to be employed on any mission of internal misrule and disturbance. This curious document is not only worthy of being preserved, as throwing light on the plans of the insurgents, but as a record of the gross ignorance of the writer, both as a general and a politician, and as proving the impossibility of harmony among rebels and brigands in prosecution of their lawless vocation. *

*PLATTSBURGH,
{ Sunday, 25th February, 1838.

DEAR SIR,—I know not when you may receive this, but as I may have very little time hereafter, I avail myself of this spare moment to convey to you one request, and send a few of the Resolutions of the Provisional Government of Lower Canada, which I am desirous you should distribute, in your part of

As soon as it was known where Nelson and Cote had crossed the frontier line, the Missisquoi Volunteers, with their usual zeal and alacrity, assembled on the flank of the rebels, and were prepared to assail them in a manner worthy of the brave and loyal subjects which they have always proved themselves to be; but they were directed by Colonel Warde, Inspecting Field Officer, to delay their attack till the arrival, from Henryville, of the Queen's troops, under the command of Colonel Booth. The rebels and brigands availed themselves of this opportunity to recross the frontier line, which they did on the 1st of March; being obliged to surrender their arms, amunition, and equipage

Canada to the best advantage. According to agreement, Mackenzie, with a large force, and well provided for war, took up his march towards Upper Canada on Friday morning; his army was safely encamped near Gananoque, about eighteen miles below Kingston, and last evening a ship from Montreal came to hand, saying that he had taken Kingston.

This news, we are assured, was confirmed by a despatch from Sir John Colborne to General Wool, at Champlain, this morning.

On the first report of M'Kenzie's movements at Watertown, all the spare troops possible were sent on towards Upper Canada, and this morning we hear that Sir John is on his way thither, having taken the largest number of regulars he could with him. We have so arranged that Wool and Colborne are under the firm persuasion, that we have secretly sent on our men and means to the assistance of Mackenzie, and this is confirmed by the *apparent* absence of our men and ammunition. We are informed, on this evening, Wool will move west, to guard the St. Lawrence frontier, disregarding us—that will much facilitate our entry into Lower Canada on Monday night and Tuesday morning.

Our force is abundant for our purpose—and, if you can possibly co-operate, our success will be of easier attainment. I

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to General Wool, of the United States Army, who had pursued them from Plattsburgh, and had previously, it is said, warned them of both the folly and unlawfulness of their enterprize. Nelson and Cote were arrested, and delivered over to the civil authorities of the United States; but they were soon set at liberty, upon finding bail to take their trial for an infraction of the laws of those States.

We believe that it was during this incursion of the rebels, under Nelson and Cote, the first of his "State" documents which were made public in the Province; but whether they were very widely circulated or not, we have been unable to ascertain. They were evidently the production of revolutionary madmen and disappointed traitors. As to their composition, they are altogether beneath the dignity of criticism. They are as devoid of

would advise you to make your way with all possible speed to Three Rivers, if you have men enough, where we shall, by rapid movements, join you, after having secured Montreal—if your force is insufficient for the first route, then make your way to St. Hyacinthe, and thence to Sorel, where you may take up quarters until you receive instructions—if again your force is still less, move on with what you can muster, to Missisquoi Bay, St. John's and Laprairie; collect all you can of fire arms. Papineau has abandoned us, and this through selfish and family motives regarding the seigniories, and inveterate love of the old French bad laws.

We can do well without him, and better than if we had him, a man only fit for words, but not for action. We have the most positive assurance of a lively and cordial reception on our arrival. We have named you a Captain, but I do not send the commission now, it is unnecessary. Yours truly,

ROBERT NELSON.

J. B. Ryan, Esquire, Derby Line.

literary taste and acumen, as of truth and common sense, and therefore not worthy of record in these pages.

About the same time that the rebels and brigands had entered the Province from Alburg, information reached Stanstead, that a horde of marauders had entered the Township of Potton, in that County, from Troy, in the State of Vermont, with the intention of pillaging all the arms they could, and laying the whole of the surrounding country waste. Upon receipt of this intelligence, the Magistrates of Stanstead despatched a messenger to Sherbrooke, for a reinforcement of a body of Volunteers; and in less than twenty-four hours after the order to march had been received, almost the whole disposable force of that section of the Eastern Townships was quartered at Stanstead, where they were received with great kindness and hospitality by the inhabitants. But the enemy had not made his appearance in that quarter; and the Volunteers returned to their respective quarters.* At Potton, however, a search was made by the brigands for arms. For that purpose, they attacked the house of an old man of the name of

* The following is the Brigade Order which was issued on this occasion:—

“Colonel Heriot returns his best thanks to Major Austin and the Queen's Mounted Rangers, also to Captain Brown and the Sherbrooke American Rifle Company, for the zealous and military-like manner in which they advanced from Sherbrooke to Stanstead, upon the alarm on Wednesday last; which Colonel Heriot will not omit to report to His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir John Colborne.”

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Elkins, who, assisted by his son and grandson, then in the house, nobly defended himself. The two latter fired down a staircase, and killed an American, as he was rushing up with a firelock in his hand. After this, a mob of about fifty in number levelled their muskets at the house, threatening to fire into it and burn it to the ground, if Elkins and his family did not immediately give up their arms. The old man, becoming afraid that his little grand-children might be killed in the assault, consented to surrender his arms; when the parties went away, carrying the dead body of their companion along with them.

On the 22nd of February, the birth-day of Washington, it was discovered that about four hundred American brigands had been concentrated at French Creek, a village on the St. Lawrence, in the State of New York, about twenty-five miles below Kingston, and nearly opposite to the town of Gananoque, on the Canadian shore. They were under the command of Van Rensselaer, who had escaped from Navy Island, and of the notorious William Johnston, who had long been a renegade from British justice, and of whose Sovereign he is an unworthy subject, though long resident in the United States. This motley body of unprincipled plunderers crossed over from French Creek on the ice, with several pieces of cannon, and took possession of Hickory Island, near Gananoque, which place they menaced with an attack. But the alarm being given, the Militia and Volunteers of the adjacent country from Brockville to Kingston

flew to the post of danger, determined to defend their country and their property from the grasp of these ruthless freebooters. A brave and loyal band, under the command of Colonel Hartwell, being formed in the neighbourhood of Gananoque, advanced to attack the enemy on Hickory Island; but intelligence was brought in that the brigands, alarmed at the menacing attitude and formidable appearance of the loyalists, were fast retreating upon French Creek, and that Hickory Island would soon be evacuated. And so it was; for as the loyalists advanced, the brigands were seen dispersing in all directions. Five prisoners were, however, made during the flight, and some arms and ammunition seized.

A few days afterwards, two hundred and fifty brigands moved from the vicinity of Buffalo with three field-pieces, across the lake, in the direction of Point Abino, about thirteen miles from Fort Erie, on the Canadian shore, and not far from the Western Locks of the Welland Canal. But they were pursued by Col. Worth, of the United States Army, and dispersed.

The next of that series of combined attacks made upon our frontiers by the brigands of the United States, took place by the invasion of Fighting Island, a part of the British territories in the Western District of Upper Canada, and situated in the River Detroit, which connects the waters of Lakes Huron and St. Clair with those of Lake Erie. This island is sometimes called Turkey Island; it is about four miles in length, and situated nearly

midway between Amherstburgh and Sandwich. The island is low and marshy.

On the 28th of January, Major Townshend, of the 24th Regiment, arrived at Amherstburgh, having command, with the local rank of Colonel, of a detachment composed of one company of the 24th, and two of the 32nd, with two six-pounders. The march, as stated by Col. Townshend, in his despatch of the 30th of January, was performed with greater expedition than had been calculated upon, from the hard and broken state of the roads, and the necessity of keeping to the waggons, which were constantly breaking down. Upon arriving at Amherstburgh, Col. Townshend found an American steamboat at the wharf, having on board Lieut. Col. Worth and a detachment of United States troops, together with other official characters employed by the United States Government for dispersing and disarming the brigands on their northern frontiers. Col. Worth had obtained the leave of Col. Radcliffe to come to anchor at Amherstburgh, in consequence of the inclemency of the weather; being on his return to Buffalo from Detroit, where he had stationed fifty men, with fifty more at Fort Gratiot, for the purpose of checking the movements of the brigands in the neighbourhood. Col. Townshend waited upon Col. Worth, and was informed by him, that he believed the excitement on the American side had greatly subsided, and that the invading banditti had been totally dispersed. But this statement, as we shall soon find, proved to be incorrect in fact, though, as

stated by Col. Townshend, it appeared to have been made in candour and good faith. Trusting, however, to the report of Col. Worth, and to corresponding information received from other sources, Col. Townshend permitted Col. Radcliffe, who commanded the whole Militia and Volunteer corps on the frontier of the Western District, to allow as many of the men as possible to return to their homes and families; a permission which was judiciously exercised, without impairing to any considerable extent the local force on the Amherstburgh and Sandwich frontier.

On the afternoon of the 24th of February, information reached Col. Maitland, of the 32nd Regiment, then at Amherstburgh, and commanding in the Western District, that a body of three or four hundred pirates from Detroit, had taken possession of Fighting Island, being well provided with arms and stores of every description, and, withal, in possession of three field-pieces. Col. Maitland was also informed that reinforcements of men and arms were momentarily expected on the island, to strengthen the position of the brigands. Fearing that such would doubtless follow, if means were not taken to dislodge them, he determined to lose no time in sending a detachment of troops to drive the brigands off the island. This detachment was entrusted to the command of Col. Townshend; and the service required of it was performed in a manner which reflects the highest credit on that excellent officer and his gallant band. On the night of the 24th, he proceeded with an escort of the St.

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Thomas Cavalry to the Petit Côte, for the purpose of reconnoitring the position of Fighting Island, then in possession of the brigands, and to ascertain the practicability of passing troops over the ice for the purpose of dislodging them. Finding that Col. Elliot, commanding at Sandwich, had returned to his post with the Militia and Volunteers under his command, Col. Townshend despatched a dragoon for the purpose of recalling him, and desiring that he would co-operate with the regular forces. These consisted of a company of the 32nd, under Capt. Browne, a company of the 83rd, under Lieut. Kelsall, and Capt. Glasgow's detachment of the Royal Artillery. The Militia and Volunteers, under Colonels Elliot and Askin, consisted of from three to four hundred men. Upon approaching a proper position, Col. Townshend gave instructions to Capt. Glasgow to open a fire on the enemy, who were seen in great numbers on the banks of the island and on the ice. The practice of Capt. Glasgow, as well here as at St. Charles and Navy Island, was attended with the best results; the brigands being much discomposed by the precision and rapidity of the fire.

On concentrating his forces, Col. Townshend adopted the resolution of passing the ice at any point that might be found practicable, much doubt having existed as to the safety of the passage. He was, however, fortunate in selecting one at which to cross in single files below the island; the enemy imagining such an event to be impossible. Capt. Browne, with the company of the 32nd, led the

way, followed by that of the 83rd, under Lieut. Kelsall. The former being the first over, were directed by Col. Townshend to keep the outskirts of the island facing the United States, with a view of intercepting the retreat of the pirates; while the latter moved at extended order through the brushwood, flanked and supported by the Militia and Volunteers. "This advance," says Col. Townshend's despatch, "was executed with great regularity and order; and I only regret that the enemy did not give us the opportunity of disproving to the American nation, and the rebels who have so actively disseminated the libel, 'that the Militia of Upper Canada would not fight against them;' as I can safely say I never witnessed more alacrity and zeal displayed than was shewn on this occasion by that body, or greater anxiety to encounter the foul aspersers." This was a compliment as generously bestowed, as it was meritoriously earned; and is a convincing proof to us that nothing can be more conducive to the cordial co-operation of the regular troops and their loyal fellow-subjects of the Militia and Volunteer force, than to be led, as they were in the present instance, by a brave and excellent officer, who had the good sense and penetration to trust to both forces alike, and to do equal justice to their zeal in the service of their country.

The flight of the pirates from Fighting Island was most precipitate. They left behind them one field-piece, which was only discharged once, various arms, such as rifles, muskets, pistols, swords; and provisions of every kind, together with powder,

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shot, and other munitions. It ought to be particularly observed that the muskets taken on this occasion were those of the United States army. They were perfectly new, never having been fired; and appeared to have been just taken out of the boxes which were found in the pirates' camp. The provisions, however, were, in many cases, of a quality different from what would be furnished to regular troops, consisting of crackers, or small hard biscuits, in barrels, boxes of smoked herrings, and such other articles of food as would, as humourously but justly observed by Col. Townshend, "have been contributed by a *sympathizing* public, rather than by a Commissariat."

The whole of these particulars, with the exception of one or two sentiments of our own, we have collected from Col. Townshend's despatch to Col. Maitland, of the 25th of February; but the concluding part of it we must give in his own words. He says: "The most pleasing and yet most difficult part of my duty remains to be performed,—namely, the calling your attention to the steadiness and general good conduct of the troops employed on this occasion, and the alacrity and zeal evinced by the large body of Volunteers and Militia that responded to my call. Where every one vied in the discharge of the duties assigned to them, it would be invidious in me to particularize; but I must be excused if I mention the zealous co-operation of the following officers commanding corps: Colonels Elliot and Askin, of the 2nd Essex Militia; Capt. Glasgow, of the Royal Artillery;

Capt. Ermatinger, of the St. Thomas Volunteer Cavalry ; and Lieut.-Col. Prince, who, though not commanding, was conspicuous as a volunteer. I beg also to call your attention to the alacrity with which the Indians of the neighbourhood turned out to our assistance. It is perhaps worthy of remark that on the rebels retiring to the American shore, they there formed themselves into platoons, and fired several rounds on us, but without effect." And with regard to this extraordinary circumstance, it is well known that the brigands experienced no opposition or obstruction whatever from the authorities of the United States. The observations of Col. Maitland upon this part of the conduct of the American authorities, is as just as it is well expressed. In his despatch of the 25th of February, reporting that of Colonel Townshend, he says: "Whatever may be the professed desire to preserve the neutrality between Great Britain and the United States, or the orders given for enforcing it, my opinion is that the conduct of the authorities in this instance partakes more of connivance at the outrages daily practised under their own eyes, than of the smallest effort to prevent those occurrences, so much to be complained of."

It is only necessary to add, in order to complete our account of this branch of the public service of Her Majesty's forces; regular and sedentary, that, a few days after the expulsion of the brigands from Fighting Island, a General Order was issued by the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, conveying to both Colonels Maitland and Townshend,

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as well as to the troops under their command, His Excellency's approbation of the prompt and effectual manner in which the brigands were driven from Fighting Island. Addresses were also presented to Col. Townshend, when about to leave that section of Upper Canada, from the Magistrates and Officers of the Western District, recognizing with gratitude his services at Fighting Island, and expressing their admiration of the zeal and efficiency with which his professional duties had been performed in the Western District. There is one paragraph in the replies of Col. Townshend to these Addresses, which is worthy of being quoted, as highly complimentary to the loyal people of Upper Canada, and with which we shall close the present subject. It is as follows :—

"It is now twenty-four years since I first commenced my military career, and became acquainted with the Militia of this Province, in the campaign of 1814, on the Niagara frontier; and I am happy in being able to bear testimony, that the men of the present day are in no way degenerated, either in loyalty or prowess, from their sires."

On the 2d March, information was received at Amherstburgh, by Col. Maitland, who commanded the 32nd Regiment, and the Western District, that a large body of brigands from the American side of Lake Erie, had taken possession of Point-au-Pelée Island, in Upper Canada,—in what force could not be precisely ascertained, as the British inhabitants of the island had been made prisoners, and others, who went to reconnoitre, were fired at, and obliged to retreat without gaining any information. Capt. Glasgow, Royal Artillery, was then sent to ascer-

tain the state of the Lake ice ; and as he reported it strong enough to bear the guns, Col. Maitland determined to attack these marauders. Point au Pelée Island is situated near the western extremity of Lake Erie, about midway between the American and Upper Canadian shores, is nine miles in length, and about six miles across at the broadest part ; there is a clearance of some acres at the northern extremity, where there is a light-house ; but at the southern extremity, a thick bush comes down to the water's edge ; the intermediate surface of the island is covered with alternate stripes of bush and swamp. On the east side, there is a clearance, in which are some few scattered houses, the principal one belonging to Mr. M'Cormack, the owner of the island, who had been obliged to fly from his home some days previous, and the leaders of those marauders were living in his house. The lake on the east side was quite open : it never freezes over there : and it is to be remarked that at the southern end of the island, at a distance of not more than six or seven miles, there are two small American islands. The force destined for this attack consisted of four companies of the 83rd ; two six-pounders, under the command of Captain Glasgow, Royal Artillery ; some few Militia, and a small troop of Volunteer Cavalry of about twenty-five men. A sufficient number of sleighs having been provided for the transport of the men, the troops left Amherstburgh about half-past five o'clock on the evening of the 2nd March, and kept the lake shore for about twenty miles, arriving at

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a small place called Colchester about ten o'clock. Here Col. Maitland halted to rest the horses ; and the people of the village learning that the soldiers were coming, had made every preparation for their comfort. About half-past one o'clock the next morning, the expedition started from Colchester, leaving the lake shore, and striking off, directly across the ice, to Point-au-Pelée island. A guide was placed in the leading sleigh. At first starting, it was tolerably light ; but before they had gone many miles across the lake, it became quite dark, and all trace of the road was lost. It then became absolutely necessary to procure a light for the guide. One of the Volunteer Cavalry was sent back in search of one, who returned after some time with a lantern. After some delay and trouble, the road was again found ; but not being much beaten, they had great difficulty in keeping it. This unexpected and unfortunate delay prevented Col. Maitland making his dispositions for the attack before daybreak, which had been his intention ; besides which, as was afterwards ascertained, the moving light attracted the attention of the enemy, who were consequently warned of their approach. Having travelled twenty miles across the lake, the troops arrived within a mile of the island shortly after daylight. Here a detachment, consisting of Captain Browne's and Captain Eveleigh's companies of the 32nd Regiment, a small number of the Volunteer Cavalry, and half a dozen Indians, branched off to the right, to take up a position at the south end of the island, in order to be

ready to intercept, and cut off the retreat, of the Americans to their own shore. Captain Browne's orders were to keep along the ice, out of musket-shot of the bush. The main body proceeded onwards, and reached the island without opposition, though they saw thirty or forty armed men, who, however, took to their heels immediately, and were soon hid in the bush. Col. Maitland sent to apprise Captain Browne of this circumstance. We shall now leave the main body, and follow the movements of Captain Browne's detachment, which proceeded at once to its destination; but not very easily, as the road was exceedingly rough, and covered with broken ice. From the point of separation, to where Capt. Browne's party halted and took up their position on the ice, at the southern extremity of the island, was nine miles. After halting, seeing all quiet, the men piled arms, took off their great-coats, and had their breakfast. Two Indians were sent into the woods to endeavour to procure information. One of them returned shortly, and reported that the main body of the brigands, amounting to between three and four hundred men, were coming down in the direction of Captain Browne's position, all well armed, and with bayonets fixed; and that in less than half an hour he was quite sure they would arrive upon the ice. He also reported that he had not seen or heard anything of the main body of the troops under Col. Maitland; but that he supposed they were in pursuit of those very fellows. Capt. Browne, though fully persuaded upon this, that a party of the bri-

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gands were approaching, yet was strongly inclined to think the Indian's story much exaggerated. However he soon proved himself entitled to credit ; for in about half an hour, as he stated, the scoundrels began to come out of the bush, from the south end of the island, in very considerable numbers, and formed upon the ice. Much to the surprise of Capt. Browne and his party, they formed regularly into line, like a disciplined force, told off by files from right to left, and by threes, and made a considerable noise in doing so. They formed as near the bush as they could : and the officers attributed the deliberate and noisy mode of their proceedings, either to bravado, and a wish to intimidate the soldiers by such a display of their superior force, or an endeavour to tempt them, by so doing, to make the first attack ; intending, if they advanced, to retreat to the bush, which was so close to them, and open a destructive fire from behind the trees. However, this *ruse* failed in its intended effect ; for the soldiers remained perfectly steady in the position they had first taken up, which was out of musket-shot of the bush, as Col. Maitland had directed. On their right flank, which was opposite the left of the second company of the 32nd Regiment, the ruffians threw out from thirty to forty skirmishers, all of whom, it was afterwards ascertained, were armed with rifles, and were their best shots. They took at least half an hour to complete these arrangements ; but even then Capt. Brown did not believe they were determined on commencing an attack. At length, the

word "Quick march" was given by their leader (a man calling himself "Major" Hudley), and they came boldly on. Capt. Browne's gallant little band, which mustered only ninety-five men, and those all young soldiers who had never been under fire, then prepared to meet them. Finding that the enemy's line threatened completely to outflank his small force, Capt. Browne ordered his files to extend to three paces distant from each other, so as to show a better front; the American force being at least three times that of the troops. The former came on in good order; and the soldiers (who had been directed not to fire a shot until a positive command was given) remained perfectly steady, until the fellows came within good range, and then opened upon them with right good will. This fire arrested their advance, and they all went down upon one knee and returned it immediately. A very brisk fire was kept up on both sides for about twenty minutes. However, the scoundrels had a somewhat better position than that of Captain Brown; for the ice was very rough, where they stood, which covered them a good deal. The enemy knowing that their only safe line of retreat was thus cut off, also expecting the main body of the troops in their rear, fought desperately; and being good marksmen, (as indeed all the Americans are, from constant practice,) the soldiers were falling very fast. At this crisis, seeing many of his brave fellows stretched upon the ice, Capt. Browne judged it expedient to charge; and no sooner was the word given, than it was responded to by a loud

cheer, and his men rushed on with the greatest impetuosity. At first, the enemy stood firm, and appeared determined to resist the bayonet; but as the soldiers neared them, they fired a volley, which brought down eight of Capt. Eveleigh's left subdivision; and then they gave way, and fled in all directions into the wood, where Capt. Browne was unable to follow them, owing to the smallness of his force. He therefore at once withdrew his men to their original position, and re-formed, fully expecting a second attack. The wounded men were sent to the rear. On mustering the two companies, which originally amounted to ninety-five men, thirty had fallen,—a fearful proportion. Of these, two died almost immediately. Twenty were severely, and eight slightly wounded. Of the former, two died within a week, and several lost limbs by amputation. The blue surtouts of the officers, contrasting with the red coats of the men, rendered the former a very conspicuous mark, and attracted the enemy's fire towards them; but though the officers received several balls through different parts of their dress, they most fortunately escaped unhurt. About an hour after this affair, the Americans were observed at a distance, upon the ice, making their escape towards their own shore. The few Cavalry Capt. Browne had with him were despatched in pursuit of them; but the ice was so dangerous in the direction in which they escaped, and the ruffians had already got so far, that the cavalry could not succeed in overtaking any of them. On visiting the scene of conflict,

Major Hudley, the commander of the American brigands, and three other of their leaders, and seven of the men, were found dead. Eleven more had been made prisoners, five of whom were wounded; but it was stated, that they had sleighs concealed in the wood, in which most of their wounded men were carried off. Their loss was great; for, a week after this, a gentleman arrived at Amherstburgh from Portland, U.S., to which place the fellows had fled, who stated that they admitted to have lost eighty in killed, wounded, and missing. Many of the latter were wounded in endeavouring to make their escape across the ice.

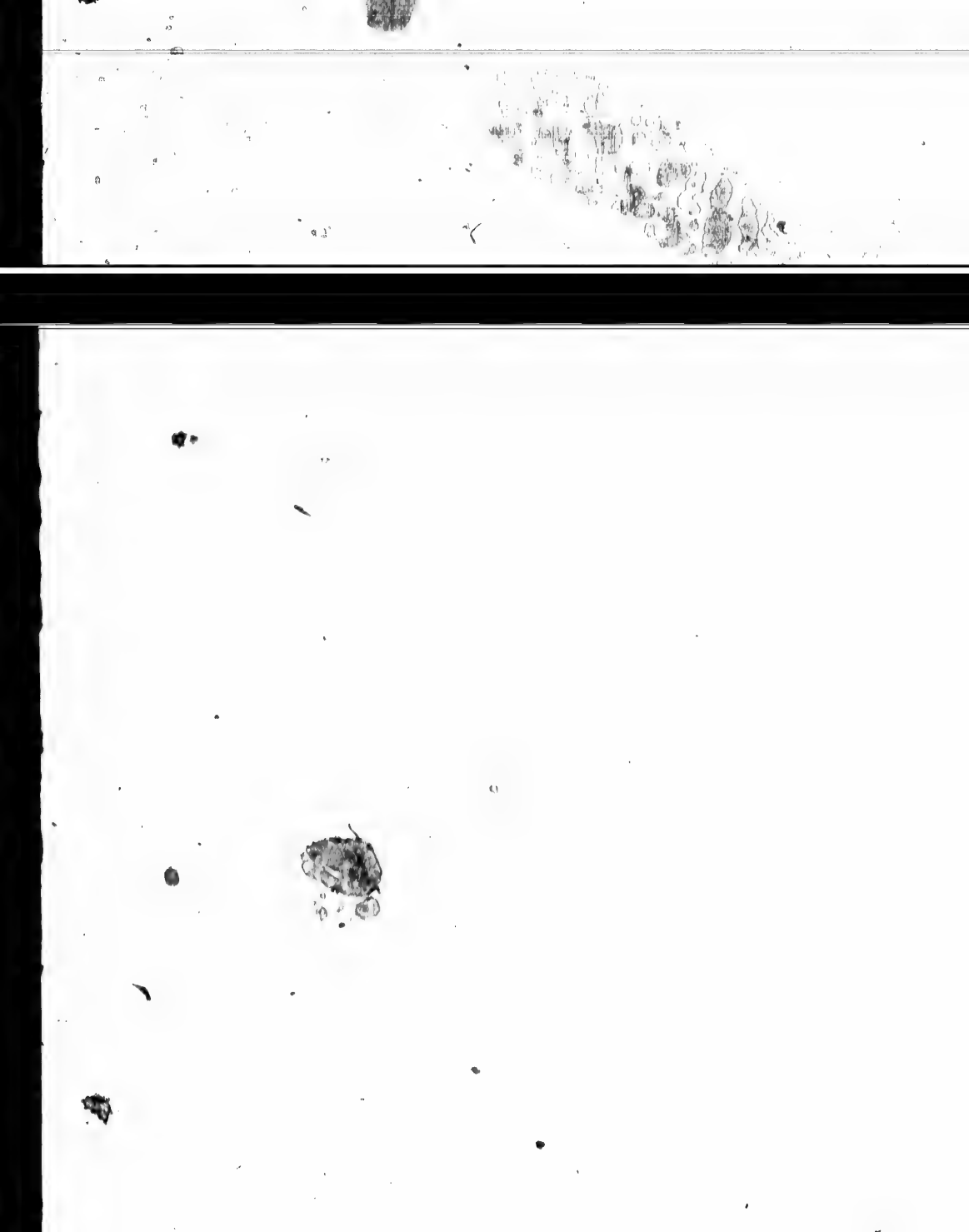
It may here be necessary to add, that the main body of the troops, under Col. Maitland, after having scoured the woods in every direction, without firing a shot, or even seeing an enemy, arrived at Capt. Browne's position about three hours after the attack had been made, of which they knew nothing, not having heard the firing. It was ascertained from the wounded Americans, that Major Hudley had watched the British troops on the ice, until he witnessed the retreat of the troops, when he determined upon attacking Capt. Browne's party with his whole force, and thus make good his retreat to the American shore, not daring to await the attack of the main body, which he saw was provided with artillery.

Col. Maitland, and the troops under his command, returned to Amherstburgh at eleven o'clock on the night of the 3rd March.*

* This graphic account of the defeat of the brigands at Point-au-Pelé, was compiled from the letters of an officer engaged.

In addition to this, it is stated by Col. Maitland, in his despatch of the 4th March, that Mr. Thomas Parish, a private of the St. Thomas troop of Volunteer Cavalry, was killed in rear of the 32nd Regiment, by a musket ball. Col. Prince, of Sandwich, Mr. Sheriff Lachlan, Capt. Girty, and several other gentlemen asked and received permission from Col. Maitland to accompany the expedition. They gallantly acted with their rifles against the pirates; and the Colonel adds that he found them very useful from their knowledge of the locality of the island. The whole of the gang driven from the British soil on this occasion, were composed of American citizens. This fact Col. Maitland stated on the most satisfactory authority. A large tricolor flag, with two stars, and the word "liberty" marked upon it, was taken along with the prisoners; and about forty American muskets, some ammunition, swords, &c. It was the intention of the brigands to have landed on the Canadian shore on the night of the 3rd March, and proceeded to Amherstburgh, destroying by fire, and otherwise laying waste, all before them. With this view, they were joined by six sleigh loads of American citizens from Sandusky Bay, on the night previous to the attack; but who made their escape back, upon the appearance of our troops in front of the island.

This noble exploit on the part of those gallant troops, received from the proper authorities, as well as from their loyal fellow-subjects in both the Canadas, that approbation and gratitude which it so well deserved. The General Orders issued on the



occasion, were highly complimentary to the whole party, who thus taught the marauding sons of rapine that they were not to be permitted to pollute the British territories with impunity. In a letter from Sir Francis Head to Col. Maitland, His Excellency says: "The gallantry, promptitude and decision with which you determined to attack, and the noble manner in which it was executed, claim my warmest acknowledgments; and I beg you will convey to Capt. Browne and the brave men who formed his detachment, my sincere thanks for the service which they have rendered to this Province, in which they were so ably supported by the rest of the officers and soldiers under your command." When the gallant conduct of Capt. Browne had been communicated to the Horse Guards, it was there so highly approved of, that he was promoted to the brevet rank of Major in the Army,—a distinction as appropriately conferred as it was well earned and merited.

Nor were the services of the Commander of this expedition, both on this occasion and during the early part of the winter in Lower Canada, suffered to go unrewarded; for in June 1838, he was appointed a Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

As soon as the gallant fellows who were wounded and disabled on this service, had so far recovered as to be able to proceed to their native country, they were conveyed from Amherstburgh to Quebec. Subscriptions were raised at Toronto, and at various other places in both Provinces, to

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provide them with every possible comfort during their journey to Quebec and voyage homewards; and they were everywhere received on their way by their loyal countrymen in the Canadas, with the warmest expressions of grateful acknowledgment for their brave and gallant conduct as the defenders of the laws and the honour of their country.* We cannot close our account of the dispersion of the American brigands at Point-au-Pelée Island, without expressing our sincere regret, that it was almost immediately followed by the death of the brave and gallant officer who commanded the expedition. We subjoin the terms in which this melancholy event was announced at the time :—

It is with sincere and unfeigned regret that we have to record the death of Colonel the Honourable John Maitland, of the 32nd Regiment, which took place at London, U.C., on the 18th

*The following are the gratifying and patriotic terms in which, on the 21st of August, 1838, an esteemed correspondent at Quebec addressed us on the subject of these wounded soldiers:—

"But the object of greatest interest in Quebec just now, is the sight of those gallant fellows of the 32nd who were wounded at Point-au-Pelée. We meet them every now and then, bearing about them the outward and visible signs of wounds and suffering, which awaken in every heart a feeling of pity, and extort from every lip an honest execration. A subscription has been made for them, which already amounts to fifty pounds, and which, combined with the sums collected in other places, will afford them any additional comfort which they may require on their voyage home, and leave them something more material than "sympathy" to console them under their misfortunes. It will teach them and their brave fellow-soldiers throughout North America, that, independent of the honourable approbation and pensions of Her Majesty's Government, the services of the British soldier will never be forgotten by those in whose aid he has fought and for whom he has bled."

instant. Col. Maitland, we learn, had been indisposed for some time previous to his lamented death; and there is reason to believe that the cold and fatigue which he endured, during the attack upon the American brigands, at Point-au-Pelée Island, on the 3rd of March, 1838, acting upon a frame enfeebled by wounds, received in the service of his country, and consequent debility, produced the complaint which carried him to his grave. These, combined with the total want of comfort in the quarters occupied last winter by the regiment, and the incessant attention paid by Col. Maitland to his military duties, on a disturbed frontier, must have hastened an event, which all who knew Col. Maitland, from His Excellency the Commander of the Forces, to the humblest private in the regiment, unite in deploring.

Col. Maitland was a son of the Earl of Lauderdale; and entered the Army early in life, but at what period we are unable to state. It will be sufficient to say that he commanded the 32nd Regiment for upwards of twenty years,—a period of command almost unexampled in the British Army. But this length of service as Colonel of the 32nd Regiment, could only be equalled by the demeanor of Col. Maitland as a Commanding Officer and a soldier. He never for a moment neglected or overlooked his duty in any station or capacity; and nothing reflects greater credit on his memory, than the almost filial attachment borne towards him by the officers and men of his regiment, who esteemed him with the veneration of a father, and obeyed his commands with the cordial and affectionate obedience of dutiful children. Nor did the suavity and kindness of manners which won the high regard of those who served under him, derogate from his authority, dignity, and strictness as an officer; which is a convincing proof, as is well observed in the General Order announcing his death, “that kind and conciliatory manners are not incompatible with the exercise of the most strict command.” We regret that our time will not admit of doing full justice to the character of Col. Maitland, and to his long and distinguished services to his country. We cannot, however, close this hasty sketch in more appropriate language than by observing, that, as Col. Maitland lived the life of a brave and highly-esteemed soldier, so he died deeply lamented by all who could duly appreciate the many virtues which constitute so estimable a character.

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On the 4th of March, while Colonel Prince of Sandwich, Prideaux Girty, Esq., of Gosfield, and Mr. Haggerty, of the River Puce, in Maidstone, were returning home in a sleigh from Point-au-Pelée Island, at the attack of which, as we have already stated, they had been present on the preceding day,—and had got within eight or nine miles of Amherstburgh,—the first of these gentlemen discovered two objects on the ice, at a distance of about four miles, which he suspected to be spies, coming from the direction of Gibraltar in Michigan. On approaching the Canadian shore, these objects were distinctly perceived to be two men; and Mr. Girty, who knew every path in the country, at once suggested that they were enemies coming to reconnoitre a particular marsh, which, it is stated, affords a quick passage from Lake Erie directly to the rear of the town of Amherstburgh. At this time, the two men approached to within a short distance of the Canadian shore; but, seeing the party in the sleigh, they suddenly turned off in a southerly direction. A pursuit was then determined upon; but Mr. Girty's horse being excessively fatigued, it was deemed advisable to push on to Mr. Anderson's, at Hartley's Point, and there procure fresh horses. At this moment, however, they met two gentlemen going down to Gosfield, each in a single-horse sleigh; and Mr. Girty, being extremely unwell from severe cold, was prevailed upon by Col. Prince to remain in his sleigh, while he and Mr. Haggerty drove off in the single sleighs, to intercept and seize the suspected persons.

When they got within fifteen rods of them. Col. Prince stopped his sleigh, and, leaving his pistols and tomahawk to the care of the driver, he proceeded with his favourite deer gun, and, advancing within fifty yards of the suspected persons, he commanded them to halt. They complied with the order; and on being asked who they were, they replied that they were American citizens. Col. Prince immediately recognized the brigand "Brigadier General" Sutherland; and, approaching within a rod of himself and his companion, demanded their swords. The "General" hesitated to comply with the request, whereupon Col. Prince rushed in upon him, and disarmed him without resistance. At this time, Mr. Haggerty came up, and, agreeably to the orders of Col. Prince, approached the fellow-traveller of Sutherland, and demanded his sword, which he delivered up with great civility. This individual proved to be "Captain" Spencer, and assumed the rank of Aide-de-Camp to Sutherland. This took place, it is proper to observe, within a mile and a half of the Canadian shore, and upwards of four miles from that of Michigan. The prisoners were put into the sleighs and conveyed to Amherstburgh.* In his despatch to the Officer commanding the forces in Upper Canada, announcing this circumstance, Col. Maitland stated that he thought Sutherland, when taken, must have been endeavouring to make his way to Point-au-Pelé Island,

* These facts are derived from evidence adduced on Sutherland's trial.

though he pretended to know nothing of the action which had taken place on the preceding day. On the following day, both prisoners were sent to Toronto, under an escort, commanded by Captain Rudyer, of that city.

On the 13th of March, Sutherland was put upon his trial at Toronto, before a Court Martial composed of Militia Officers, in pursuance of an Act passed by the Legislature of Upper Canada, entitled "An Act to protect the inhabitants of this Province against lawless aggressions from the subjects of foreign countries at peace with Her Majesty." The deportment of Sutherland on this occasion was said to be calm and collected. He represented himself to have been a lawyer. He is a tall and muscular man, of about five feet eleven inches in height, with bold and strongly-marked features; a full, quick, light-grey eye, dark, sallow complexion, and black hair; but his countenance did not appear to us, when we saw him, to have been illuminated with a ray of that wildly-fierce and independent spirit which betokens the ruthless brigand. He was dressed, on his trial, in a sort of half-military blanket frock-coat, similar to the surtouts worn by the Indians, having dark-blue buttons, collar and cuffs; grey pantaloons, with seams of dark-blue. He was furnished with a copy of the charges against him, and was allowed to consult counsel, who were not, however, permitted to plead for him. On the opening of the Court, on the second day of the trial, it was discovered that, during the preceding night, the prisoner had at-

tempted to bleed himself to death by opening veins in his arms and feet; and had consequently become so much exhausted as to be unable to appear in Court. After a week's adjournment, Sutherland had so far recovered as to be able to proceed with his trial; and after the evidence for the prosecution had closed, he entered upon his defence. This he read at great length; but called no witnesses, confining his case wholly to mere points of law. The Court having thereupon deliberated, transmitted their sentence to the Lieutenant Governor, for his approval; and, in a few days, it was found that Sutherland was condemned to be transported for life to some of Her Majesty's penal settlements. In the meantime, he was reported to have made very important disclosures with respect to the plots and projects of both the American brigands and Canadian rebels; but such disclosures, if made at all, could only amount to the facts which have since transpired, and which reflect unfavorably upon the United States as a civilized country and independent nation, assuming a rank as such. A short time afterwards, Sutherland, in company with some of his late brethren in arms, and now fellow-convicts, was conveyed from Toronto to Quebec, where he was committed to the Citadel as a State prisoner. It appears, upon a consideration of his case by Her Majesty's Government, that, instead of carrying the sentence of this leader of brigands into execution, orders were given to permit him to return to the United States, upon

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giving security in the sum of two thousand pounds that he would never again return to Canada.

On the 12th of March, agreeably to General Orders, the whole of the troops in garrison at Montreal, as well the regulars as the volunteers, were paraded in heavy marching order on the Place d'Armes; the Volunteer Rifles forming the advanced party. The first division consisted of the Royal Regiment, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of Volunteers, the 34th Regiment, and the Royal Montreal Cavalry. The second division consisted of the Royal Artillery, the Volunteer Artillery, the 83rd Regiment, the 1st Battalion of Volunteers, the Montreal Light Infantry Volunteers, the 85th Regiment, and the Queen's Light Dragoons. When these different corps took up their position in the Place d'Armes, the spectacle was very imposing to the mind of the spectator, and resembled a host preparing for battle. The bands of the regular troops played some airs, while the Volunteers were taking up their ground in close columns, which gave additional interest to the parade. At half-past ten o'clock, the whole body marched off in sections through Notre Dame Street, as far as Victoria Road, and at the latter place were paraded in brigade order, and inspected by Col. Wetherall, Commandant of the Garrison. The conduct and appearance, on this occasion, of the different Volunteer corps, both cavalry and infantry, reflected great credit upon the general state of discipline, and afforded no ground for any disparaging contrast being drawn between them and the regular

troops. But, besides, the loyal inhabitants of the Province felt, at this time, that they owed a deep debt of gratitude to these volunteers, who, while rebellion raged through the land, and the lives and property of every good subject were in danger, flew to arms, willing to shed the last drop of their blood in defence of their rights and liberties. It is only necessary to add, that, slight and imperfect as this record is of their appearance on this occasion, it will be a convincing proof, we trust, to the empire at large, that Lower Canada contains brave and loyal hearts, determined to maintain their faith and honour as British subjects, and to perpetuate the connexion of the Province with the Mother Country. It is surely to be hoped that a spirit so congenial to British freemen, and so conservative of British rule, will receive the reward which it so justly merits,—protection from within and without, at the hands of the Imperial Government,* and the speedy establishment of English laws and English institutions through the whole Province.

Towards the middle of March, intelligence reached the Province that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to nominate His Excellency Sir John Colborne a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath; and appointed His Excellency Commander of the Forces in Upper and Lower Canada,—having formerly acted merely as Lieutenant-General Commanding. It was also stated that the Queen had been gra-

* It will be recollected that this was written eleven years ago.

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ciously pleased to honour His Excellency with a letter under own hand, expressing, in the most flattering terms, Her Majesty's approbation of the valuable services which His Excellency had rendered to his country during the late insurrection in this Province.

The 23rd of March was remarkable for the arrival of one Lieutenant-Governor in Upper Canada, and the departure of another. As far back as the 15th of January, His Excellency Sir Francis Head sent a Message to both Houses of the Legislature of Upper Canada, intimating, that having had the misfortune to differ with Her Majesty's Government on one or two points of Colonial policy, he felt it to be his duty, on the 10th of the preceding September, respectfully to tender to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, the resignation of that important office, which, for a short time, he had had the honour to hold in that Province. His resignation having been accepted, His Excellency informed the Legislature that he had received official information that Her Majesty had been pleased to appoint Sir George Arthur to be Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada; and that His Excellency might soon be expected to arrive in the Province. In the conclusion of the Message, Sir Francis Head generously observed, that, under the peculiar circumstances in which the Province was placed, he felt confident that the Legislature would rejoice with him in the approaching arrival of an officer of high character and considerable experience, and whose rank in the army would

enable him to combine the military command with the civil government of the Province.

In reply to this Message, which excited much regret and surprise among the loyal inhabitants of Upper Canada, both Houses of the Legislature presented Addresses to His Excellency. In that from the Legislative Council, His Excellency was assured, that it was with extreme regret that they learned that the civil government of the Province was to continue for so short a time in the charge of Sir Francis Head. It was not known to that body upon what particular points the views of His Excellency had differed so essentially from those of Her Majesty's Government, as to induce him to tender his resignation; but they knew, that at no period of the history of Upper Canada, had its political condition been such as ought to be more satisfactory to the Ministers of the Crown; and they felt, that not Upper Canada only, but the empire, owed to His Excellency a large debt of gratitude for his firm and manly avowal, upon all occasions, of those sentiments which became the Representative of a British Monarch, and for the unswerving support which His Excellency had never failed to give to the established principles of the Constitution. It is was this fearless adherence, rather than expediency, which enabled His Excellency to rally round the Government, in a moment of danger, the arms of a united people, and to exhibit that Province to their Sovereign, and to the world, in a posture which must command for its brave and loyal inhabitants the highest admiration and respect.

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In the Address of the Assembly, it was stated, that when the House called to remembrance the events of His Excellency's administration of the affairs of that Province,—the respect and confidence with which he had been regarded, arising from his firm and uncompromising adherence to the principles of the Constitution, and which had afforded to the inhabitants of the Colony various opportunities of proving, not by words merely, but by acts the most convincing and undeniable, their firm and unshaken loyalty to their Sovereign, and their desire to maintain their connexion with the Parent State, in contradiction to assertions and insinuations of a contrary tendency; they could not but view with alarm the disclosure then made, that His Excellency had felt himself called upon to resign the administration of the government on the grounds stated in His Excellency's Message. It was added by the Assembly, that, if His Excellency's measures and policy had not given satisfaction to their gracious Queen, they were driven to enquire, in the most humble and respectful, but solemn manner, what course of policy it was which was expected from Her Majesty's Representative in the Province. In the meantime, His Excellency was assured, that the House of Assembly, and the people of Upper Canada, would regard the relinquishment of its government by His Excellency as a calamity of the most serious nature; and which might result in difficulties and dissensions that could not be easily repaired or reconciled. In conclusion, the House begged, respectfully and affec-

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tionately, to express, on behalf of the Province, their earnest hope that His Excellency's prosperity in future life might be commensurate with the claims, deep and lasting as they were, upon their gratitude,—the approbation of their gracious Queen,—and the applause and acknowledgment of the British nation.

It was, however, not only in Upper Canada that the resignation of Sir Francis Head was regretted, and his government approved of; but throughout every Province in British North America. Reports having been spread abroad that it was the intention of His Excellency to proceed to England through the Lower Provinces, and embark at Halifax, preparations were made at that port, as well as at Montreal, Quebec and Frederickton, to receive him with the respect due to his rank, and in a manner which should demonstrate the cordial approbation of his fellow subjects in those loyal cities, of the administration of his government. But His Excellency determined on embarking at New York; and, for that purpose, left Toronto on the morning of the 23rd March. Sir Francis was accompanied to the wharf by almost the whole of the inhabitants of Toronto, and was cheered in the most enthusiastic manner as the steamboat got under weigh. He replied, in his usual ready and expressive style, by pointing to the red-cross flying from the mast-head of the steamboat, as emblematical of the loyalty of Britons, and of the harmony which should exist between them in every quarter of the world. Leaving the steamboat, His Excellency

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arrived at Kingston the same night; and, next morning, crossed the Lake on the ice, proceeding, by Watertown, Utica and Albany, to New York; but not, we regret to say, without danger of being waylaid and ill-treated by some "sympathizing" citizens on the frontiers of the State of New York, who could neither forgive nor forget the determined spirit with which Sir Francis Head had always opposed and frustrated their nefarious designs upon the Province which he recently governed. Soon after the arrival of Sir Francis Head in England, a grand Colonial dinner was given to him, at the Free-Masons' Hall, London, with the view of expressing public admiration of the loyal conduct of the great majority of the inhabitants of the Provinces of British North America, during the recent disturbances in the Canadas; of the noble determination evinced by them of maintaining unimpaired their connexion with Great Britain; and also of the truly British manner in which Sir Francis, during his short and eventful administration of the government of one of these Provinces, aided in the development of those feelings.

Meanwhile, a few hours after the departure of Sir Francis Head from Toronto, Sir George Arthur was sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, with the accustomed ceremonies; when the usual Proclamation was issued announcing officially the change in the administration of the government of the Province. Duly appreciating the character and talents of the new Lieutenant-



Governor, the loyal inhabitants of Upper Canada did not hesitate for a moment to give him their confidence, and to congratulate him upon his arrival, and appointment to the administration of the government. It is unnecessary to allude more particularly to the Addresses which, from various parts of the Province, were soon afterwards presented to His Excellency; but we cannot forbear from appending the excellent and patriotic Answer returned by Sir George to the Address of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Toronto, as containing sentiments worthy of a Christian, a patriot, and a statesman:—

MR. MAYOR, AND GENTLEMEN,—I thank you most unaffectedly for your congratulations on my assuming the government of this Province, and for the very flattering allusions you have made to my services in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions.

That my appointment, in succession to so distinguished an officer as Sir Francis Head, is acceptable to you, will, I am sure, be gratifying to Her Majesty.

Your voluntary pledge to afford me the cordial and zealous support and co-operation of the loyal inhabitants of Toronto, in administering the laws, and preserving unimpaired the valued institutions of this part of the British empire, is a tower of strength to me, on which I shall firmly rely in my sincere endeavours to maintain and uphold the Constitution of Upper Canada as by law established, which you justly so highly prize.

There is not, I believe, recorded on the page of history, an instance wherein the great body of the inhabitants of any country have more unequivocally testified their devotion to the person of their Sovereign, and their attachment to the laws by which their religious and political rights and liberties were secured to them; and the conspicuous part which has been taken by the Municipal authorities of the city of Toronto on this memorable occasion, will, I am certain, be marked by some special act of Her Majesty's favour and distinction.

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Your Address is the more peculiarly gratifying to me at this moment, as, by a full knowledge of, and confidence in its power, the Executive Government is more at liberty, where justice does not absolutely forbid it, to unfurl the banner of mercy.

Harshness and severity are distinguishing marks of weakness and apprehension.

The country is strong enough to be magnanimous; and, as the inhabitants of Upper Canada have the reputation of being a religious people, it will now be open to them, collectively and individually, to give proof of their Christian profession, by forgiving, without any ostentatious upbraiding, the extreme injuries they have received.

"The quality of mercy is not strained:

It droppeth as the gentle dew from Heaven

Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed:

It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes;

It's mightiest in the mightiest."

If the great victory which has been achieved, be now used with moderation and with well-timed conciliation, the late seeming frown of Providence upon this noble Province, may issue in a very great blessing; for I do not despair of seeing many persons now come forward, openly and avowedly, as loyal supporters of the Constitution, who, although hitherto advocates of some partial changes in the institutions of the country, nevertheless would be desirous to make the most public declaration of their detestation of traitors, and murderers, and incendiaries; and thus you may become a more united, and therefore a more happy people.

I will avail myself of this opportunity, Mr. Mayor, of assuring yourself, the Aldermen and Commonalty of Toronto, that I shall be at all times most ready and most desirous to co-operate with you in every measure that has a tendency to advance the interests of this rising city, and promote the welfare and happiness of all classes of its inhabitants.

At this time, intelligence was received in the Province of the proceedings in the Imperial Parliament, with respect to the disturbed state of Lower Canada. This Parliament, which was the first of the present reign, was opened by Her Majesty in person, on the 20th of November, 1837; and, in

the Speech from the Throne, the Queen recommended the state of this Province to the serious consideration of Parliament. Accordingly at as early a period as the state of business would admit of, Lord John Russell stated in the House of Commons, that, as to the adjournment of the House for the 1st of February, he did not think that he would be justified, in consequence of the state of affairs in Canada, to propose such adjournment; and, therefore, he proposed the adjournment for the 16th of January. The Ministry would then, his Lordship said, call upon Parliament for such measures as the necessity of the case might demand; and submit, whether it was their determination that the well-affected to the Crown in Canada should be supported. In the meantime, the duties of Governor of the Province would devolve upon Sir John Colborne, who had been informed that Her Majesty's Government had the greatest confidence in his steadiness and judgment. A similar statement was made in the House of Lords by Lord Glenelg, the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

When Parliament re-assembled, on the 16th of January, it was found that, on that very day, the Earl of Durham had been appointed Governor-General, Vice-Admiral and Captain-General of all Her Majesty's Provinces within, and adjacent to North America; and High Commissioner for the adjustment of certain important affairs affecting the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada.

In the House of Commons, Lord John Russell, after entering into a full consideration of the state

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of affairs in Canada, and developing the views of Ministers with regard to them, asked, and, after a long and interesting debate, obtained leave to propose an Address to the Queen, stating the concern with which the House had heard of the disturbances and revolt in Lower Canada, and pledging itself to support Her Majesty in restoring tranquillity and affording protection to her loyal subjects in that Province. In thanking the Commons for this Address, Her Majesty observed, that the unfortunate events which had taken place in Lower Canada gave her the deepest concern; but that Her Majesty looked forward with anxiety to that period, when the re-establishment of order would enable her to lay the foundation of lasting peace in the Colonies. "The spirit," says Her Majesty, "manifested by the loyal inhabitants of the Provinces of North America, and the exertions they have made in support of my authority, demand my warmest acknowledgments." A similar Address was voted by the House of Lords, and a similar answer returned to it by Her Majesty.*

* On the 18th of January, when Lord Glenelg moved the Address, a very animated discussion arose in the House of Lords; and we deem it due to the Earl of Durham to record in this place his speech on that occasion, in order to show the motives and sentiments by which he was actuated in assuming the government of these Provinces. It is alike an eloquent and patriotic speech, and would do honour to any statesman of whatever age:—

The EARL OF DURHAM said: My Lords, I think it necessary to address a few words to your Lordships, in explanation of the principles which, in point of fact, have induced me to accept the office which I now hold. My Lords, it is impossible for lan-

On the 17th of January, agreeably to notice given the preceding day, Lord Russell moved for leave to bring in a Bill to make temporary provision for the Government of Lower Canada; and the motion having been granted, the subject was debated in the House of Commons for several nights. On the motion of Sir Robert Peel and Sir Edward Sugden, the preamble and several clauses of the Bill were amended by the consent of Ministers; and thus amended, it was passed by the

gauge to express the reluctance with which I have consented to undertake this duty; and nothing but the most ardent attachment and most determined devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty's house and interests, and to the service of my country, could have induced me to place myself and my character in a situation, where I fear that I cannot answer the expectations of my noble friends who have requested me to undertake this office, or even my own. [Hear! hear!] The noble and illustrious Duke who has spoken with so much candour to-night, has stated that he regrets to hear that the object of these measures which your Lordships are now called on to consider, is merely the support of a particular party in Canada. I can assure your Lordship that it is with no such view that I have undertaken my present duty. [Hear! hear!] My duty, as I conceive it, is to assert, in the first instance, the supremacy of Her Majesty's Government; and to vindicate, in the next, the honour and dignity of the law,—taking care that it is not set at nought in the remotest cabin in the remotest settlement of Canada: [Hear! hear!] and I shall feel that I have not performed that duty, whilst the dignity and supremacy of the Crown and the law continue to be assailed. [Hear! hear!] Having settled these primary and preliminary objects, I wish, casting aside all considerations of a French, a British, and a Canadian party—for I will know nothing of a French, a British, or a Canadian party, but will look on them all alike as Her Majesty's subjects [Hear! hear!]
—I wish, I repeat, to extend to them all equal justice and equal protection. [Hear! hear!] I will protect, on the one hand, the local rights and privileges of those who may be considered as the proprietors of the soil; and, on the other, those commercial rights and privileges which are considered more peculiarly to affect the British settlers. The noble and learned Lord, at the close of the speech delivered from the bench below me, said that I have undertaken but a thankless task in carrying out with me

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Commons on the 24th of January, and sent up to the House of Lords. Here, as well as in the Lower House, the measure was much debated, and a stipendiary Agent of the late House of Assembly was permitted to address their Lordships in opposition to the Bill. It was, however, read a second time on the 5th, and finally passed on the 9th of February, and received the Royal sanction next day. By this Act, it was declared that the state of the Province of Lower Canada was such, that

to Canada the suspension of its Constitution. My Lords, on this as on many other points, I cannot agree with that noble and learned personage. These acts ought not to be considered in the light in which the noble and learned Lord has been pleased to view them. The Constitution of Canada is suspended, not by any act of the British Parliament; but by the rebellious acts of individuals in that Province. [Hear! hear!] I do not consider —if I did I would not undertake the task—I do not consider that I go to Canada to suspend its Constitution: I go there to provide a remedy for an extraordinary state of things, produced by rebels, who have rendered the working of that Constitution impracticable. [Hear!] And to execute this honourable, and difficult, and dangerous mission—difficult and dangerous, I mean, as affects my reputation—I implore of your Lordships to give me such powers as will enable me to make a final settlement of these unfortunate differences,—as will produce final contentment and satisfaction among all parties,—and as will not merely assist the dignity of the Crown and the supremacy of the law, but will also promote the general happiness and prosperity of one of the most important colonial possessions of Great Britain. If I could accomplish this great object, my Lords, I should consider no personal sacrifice—not even that of my life—too much; [Hear!] and I can hope to accomplish it by the cordial support of my noble friends below me, Her Majesty's Ministers, which I feel sure that I shall meet,—by the active co-operation of Parliament, which I expect to obtain,—and by generous forbearance on the part of the noble Lords opposite, to whom I have been opposed politically all my life, which I am induced to believe they will display towards me; from the candour which the noble and illustrious Duke has exhibited on this occasion; as on all other occasions where the public interests have been concerned. [The noble Earl then sat down amidst loud cheering from both sides of the House.]

the House of Assembly could not be called together without serious detriment to the interests of the Province; and that it was expedient to make temporary provision for the government of Lower Canada, in order that Parliament might be enabled, after mature deliberation, to make permanent arrangements for the constitution and government of the Province, upon such a basis as might best secure the rights and liberties, and promote the interests of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in Lower Canada. It was therefore provided, that, from the proclamation of the Act in the Province, till the 1st of November, 1840, so much of the Act of 1791 which constituted or provided for the calling of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Lower Canada, or conferred any power or functions on either of those bodies, should cease and be of no force. It was then enacted, that it should be lawful for Her Majesty to constitute a Special Council for the affairs of Lower Canada, with whose advice and consent the Governor was authorized to make such Laws or Ordinances for the peace, welfare and good government of the Province, as the previous Provincial Legislature was empowered to make; such laws to be proposed by the Governor,—to be limited in their duration till the 1st of November, 1842,—to impose no taxes,—to affect none of the existing laws respecting rights of elections,—nor “to repeal, suspend or alter any provision of any Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, or the Parliament of the United Kingdom, or of any Act of the Legislature of

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Lower Canada as now constituted, repealing or altering any such Act of Parliament."

Early in May, intelligence arrived in the Province, of the death of George Ramsay, ninth Earl of Dalhousie. This melancholy event took place at Dalhousie Castle, on the 21st of March; his Lordship being then in the sixty-eighth year of his age. Lord Dalhousie acceded to the government of this Province in 1820, upon the demise of the Duke of Richmond, being at that time Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia; and filled the important office of Captain General and Governor in Chief of British North America till 1828, when his Lordship was appointed Commander of the Forces in India. The Earl of Dalhousie was one of the best and worthiest men of his time; and he endeared himself to the loyal inhabitants of this Province, not less by his private virtues and numerous acts of generous munificence, than by the stern, unflinching integrity of his conduct in every department of his public station. The death of his Lordship was deeply lamented throughout the whole of these Provinces, but particularly in this one, where the numerous admirers of his many excellent qualities, felt, that they had indeed lost a faithful friend and steady benefactor.

Although such an event as the successful navigation of the Atlantic ocean by steam, forms no part, strictly speaking, of the Annals of Canada, yet it is, nevertheless, an epoch in the history of the world, and of science, of too important a character to be passed over without notice.

On the 23d of April, being St. George's day, two British steam ships, the *Sirius* and *Great Western*, arrived almost simultaneously at New York. The former, commanded by Lieut. Roberts, R. N., sailed from Cork, on the evening of the 4th of April, and arrived at New York, early in the morning of the 23d. She proved herself to be an excellent sea boat during the passage, which was a very stormy and trying one; and her performance was such as fully to answer the most sanguine expectations of her owners and commander. The *Great Western* arrived at New York, at three o'clock in the afternoon of the 23d, having sailed from Bristol on the 7th. Her trip was performed within the period specified by the most ardent friends of noble enterprize, notwithstanding that the voyage was an exceedingly boisterous one. Her motion, however, was so trifling, as to render it unnecessary to employ the ordinary frame-work to secure the dinner furniture on the table. She was commanded by Captain Hosken, R.N. On the 24th both steamships were visited by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of New York, accompanied by a number of the most respectable citizens; and were entertained by both Captains with the cordial welcome and hearty cheer of British sailors. In return for such hospitality, the Mayor and Aldermen invited Captains Roberts and Hosken to a public dinner at New York, at which the best feelings prevailed; exhibiting much of that warmth of affection, and generosity of sentiment which must ever prevail between a kindred people, whatever may be their national differences

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and political strifes. The *Sirius* left New York, for London, on the 1st, and the *Great Western*, for Bristol, on the 7th of May, both crowded with passengers, and accompanied by the best wishes of the citizens of New York for a prosperous voyage, and a speedy return. Since this first attempt to navigate the Atlantic by steam, a regular line of steam-packets has been established, the regularity and success of which has won the admiration of the world.

It would be unpardonable, in "these our Annals," not to notice so interesting an event as the solution of the great problem of the North-West Passage, intelligence of which reached us about the middle of May, 1838. That important question, which has excited the curiosity, animated the bravery, and employed the science and nautical skill of Great Britain, during a period of three centuries, was ultimately put to rest by the intrepidity of two of her private subjects,—Messrs. Dease and Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company.

On the 10th of May, fifty-two prisoners, confined at Toronto on charges of High Treason, and who had pleaded for pardon upon acknowledgment of their guilt, were called before the Court of King's Bench, and informed by Chief Justice Robinson, that they would be discharged upon finding bail to keep the peace for three years. But, in a very impressive speech, his Lordship told them, that the Provincial Government had not the power to remit the forfeiture of their property. The offence they had contemplated, would have struck at the

root of the British Crown, and from the Home Government alone could be obtained the remission. He trusted they would in future become good subjects; for upon that would probably depend whether the forfeiture of their property would be exacted or not. He would refrain from the language of reproach; but it was desirable that when they returned to the mass of mankind, they should do so with as little prejudice as possible. Many good and loyal men in the neighbourhood of which they resided, might differ in opinion, as to the policy of Government in the lenity it had shewn; but they ought to remember that it was their loyalty and undaunted courage which had enabled the Government to extend its mercy. When they returned to their homes, they should endeavour to live happy and comfortable, to say they were misled, but not, he conjured them, to attempt to justify themselves before their loyal neighbours; to acknowledge themselves wrong, and no man would be hard upon them. It was their previous character which powerfully prevailed in obtaining their release; and it was the previous character of some of them, which made the leader of the late rebellion so desirous to avail himself of their names to grace his unholy cause.

A few days afterwards, a Proclamation was issued by His Excellency Sir George Arthur, fulfilling the foregoing judicial notification. At the same time, His Excellency called upon all Her Majesty's good and faithful subjects, to unite with the Government in calming, as much as possible, those feelings of indignation and displeasure which the late wicked

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rebellion had so naturally excited, and by the exercise of a kind and generous forbearance, to suffer their misguided fellow subjects to return as speedily and entirely as might be, to the peaceful and confident enjoyment of these blessings, which, by their folly and misconduct, they had endeavoured to destroy. It was earnestly hoped, that all who had, upon that occasion, experienced the merciful forgiveness of their Government, might hereafter so demean themselves, as to show their just and grateful sense of the Royal clemency; that they might imitate, in future, the loyal fidelity of those, by whose brave and active exertions the late insurrection had been so promptly suppressed; and, by their dutiful obedience to the laws, and their orderly and inoffensive conduct, they might leave no occasion to their Government, or to their fellow subjects, to regret the lenient course which had been adopted towards them. Finally, all good and worthy inhabitants of Upper Canada were assured, that Her Majesty was deeply sensible of the excellent conduct, which had so honourably distinguished them during the trials to which they had been exposed; and that, if ever again their peace should be disturbed by domestic or foreign enemies, they might rely upon receiving the utmost support of their Sovereign and of the British nation.

Towards the latter end of May, a very important change took place in the government of Lower Canada, in consequence of the arrival of the Earl of Durham, with the commissions of Governor General and High Commissioner; and the relin-

quishment of the administration of the government by Sir John Colborne. Before proceeding to record the circumstances attending the first of those events, we deem it to be our duty to preserve a memorial of the public opinion, with respect to an administration which was as memorable in itself and creditable to the wisdom and energy of the gallant veteran at its head, as it was beneficial to the best interests of the Province. About the middle of May, Sir John Colborne removed his Head-Quarters and the Seat of Government from Montreal to Quebec, in the daily expectation of the arrival of the Earl of Durham; and at this time, very numerous and most respectable public meetings were held in both cities, for the purpose of considering the propriety of presenting Addresses to His Excellency, on the occasion of his retirement from the administration of the government. Nothing, we are sure, could have been more gratifying to His Excellency, or, indeed, to any servant of the Crown placed in similar circumstances, than the warm and unanimous sentiments of approbation, which were expressed, as well in the general proceedings, as in the Resolutions of the meetings in question, of the conduct of His Excellency as Administrator of the Government. The Address agreed upon by the inhabitants of the city and vicinity of Quebec, was presented to the late Administrator on the first of June, the day immediately after the landing of the Earl of Durham, and while Sir John Colborne was upon the eve of his

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departure from the city, upon a military tour of inspection to Upper Canada.

On the 5th of June, Sir John Colborne arrived at Montreal from Québec; and proceeded, without delay, on his tour to Upper Canada, accompanied by his Staff. In that Province, His Excellency was received with every demonstration of respect and congratulation; and Addresses, containing the most gratifying expressions of joy and satisfaction, at beholding the former Governor once more amongst them, were everywhere presented to His Excellency by the loyal inhabitants of that Province.

Sir John Colborne arrived at Montreal, from Upper Canada, on the 15th June, under a salute from St. Helen's battery; and put up at the residence of Major-General Clitherow. In the course of the day, a deputation of fifty gentlemen, of the first respectability, waited upon His Excellency with the Address, which had been agreed upon at a public meeting of the inhabitants of Montreal, held on the 10th of May, headed by the Hon. Mr. McGill, Chairman of the meeting. In this Address, the heartfelt satisfaction and the warm and affectionate regard of the inhabitants of Montreal, were expressed for His Excellency. In his reply to this Address, His Excellency stated, that he was convinced the restoration of tranquillity adverted to, could not have been effected, without the support which had been afforded by the loyal inhabitants of Montreal, and of the Province generally. He had great satisfaction in hearing that the inhabitants of Montreal approved of his measures, during the time

that he had administered the government of the Province; and, in again returning them thanks for their kind expressions, he assured them, that he should ever feel grateful for the attentions which he had received at Montreal; and that it would always afford Lady Colborne and himself much pleasure to be enabled to take up their residence among them. The same evening, His Excellency, accompanied by Major-General Clitherow, and attended by his Staff, embarked for Quebec, under a salute from St. Helen's battery, and amidst the cheering of a great multitude of the inhabitants, who had assembled on the wharves, to witness His Excellency's departure.

On Sunday, the 27th of May, at one o'clock in the afternoon, Her Majesty's ship *Hastings*, having His Excellency the Earl of Durham, family, and suite on board, arrived at Quebec from England; but his Lordship did not land till the 29th. On that day the military preparations were accordingly made; and a little before one o'clock, the Grenadier and Coldstream Guards posted a Captain's guard of honour at the wharf, and a second at the Castle of St. Lewis, the streets being lined by the remainder of the two battalions, from the landing-place to the Castle. At two o'clock, the Earl of Durham left the *Hastings*, which was dressed in her colours, and fired a salute as his lordship's barge pulled from the ship. The yards of the *Malabar*, *Inconstant*, *Pique* and *Racehorse*, and of the Provincial surveying schooner *Gulnare*, were manned, in compliment to the Governor General,

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who was received on the Queen's wharf by His Excellency Sir John Colborne, Commander of the Forces, Major-General Sir James Macdonell, Commander of the Garrison, and the whole Military Staff and Heads of Departments. The guard of honour saluted as soon as the Governor General set his foot on shore, and a salute of nineteen guns was fired from the citadel. Immediately upon landing, his lordship mounted his horse, and attended by the Lieutenant-General, the Major-General, and a numerous military retinue, proceeded to the Castle; the Countess of Durham and the other ladies following in an open carriage. The Executive Council and the officers of the Civil Government, were in attendance at the Castle; and his lordship, on alighting, immediately proceeded to the Council Chamber, where, after the several Commissions of His Excellency had been read, the oaths of office were administered to his Lordship in the usual form. The termination of this ceremony was announced by a second salute of nineteen guns from the battery, on Cape Diamond; and soon afterwards a Proclamation was issued, announcing that the Earl of Durham had assumed the Government of British North America. His Excellency was cheered in dismounting, and on leaving the Castle; the streets and wharves, the Place d'Armes, and the promenades near the Government gardens being thronged with spectators.

Two days afterwards His Excellency the Governor General directed circular letters to be addressed to the Members of the Executive Council

of the Province, acquainting them that it was not his intention to continue that Council, according to its former composition, and that their services would not be required for the present. It was stated in these letters, that His Excellency had come to that determination not from any feeling of dissatisfaction with the conduct of the Executive Council, or of any of its Members. On the contrary, His Excellency particularly expressed his high sense of their services, and his esteem and respect for themselves personally. But his Lordship deemed it essential to the objects of his mission, that during the temporary suspension of the Constitution, the administration of affairs should be completely independent of, and unconnected with all parties and persons in the Province. Accordingly, a new Executive Council was appointed. A notice was also published in the Official Gazette, stating that His Excellency the Governor General had been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Province, bearing date the first of June, to dissolve the Special Council, which stood prorogued by Sir John Colborne to the 18th of that month. This was to be expected, as the late Administrator of the Government, in the appointment of Special Councillors, expressly stated, that the Earl of Durham would enter upon the discharge of his duties wholly unfettered as to the choice of Councillors—that the appointments to the Special Council would be entirely provisional—and that the Royal Instructions which had been forwarded to His Excellency, Sir John Colborne, would be revoked and

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superseded by the Commission and the Instructions, of which Lord Durham would be the bearer.

For a few days after his arrival, His Excellency the Earl of Durham, was thus engaged in making preliminary arrangements for his future government, and in receiving and answering Addresses from various parts of the Province, congratulating his lordship upon his assumption of the Government, and expressing the utmost confidence in his Administration. The first of these Addresses was one from the inhabitants of the city and vicinity of Quebec, which was presented on the 4th of June, by a large number of gentlemen, who proceeded in a body from the Exchange to the Castle of St. Lewis. His Excellency, attended by a most brilliant Staff, received the Deputation with great urbanity; and the Address having been read by William Walker, Esquire, the chairman of the meeting at which it was adopted, His Excellency, in a tone and manner which excited universal admiration, read his answer. His lordship thanked the deputation for their kind and friendly address. Following, as it did, the cordial reception which he experienced on his first landing on their shores, it gave His Excellency great satisfaction, for it convinced him that he might rely upon their support and co-operation in the accomplishment of the arduous task, which, in obedience to the commands of his Sovereign, he had undertaken. He earnestly entreated, that, at such a crisis, all party and political feeling would be laid aside; and he would thus be enabled to proceed without hindrance

in accomplishing the grand objects of his mission, and placing in a permanent state of security those interests in which the inhabitants of the Province were so deeply concerned.

Addresses were also presented at this time, to His Excellency from the inhabitants of Three Rivers; from Citizens, inhabitants, proprietors, and others, subjects of Her Majesty," of French origin, residing in the District of Montreal; from the British Wesleyan Ministers stationed in Lower Canada, and from the members of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, to all of which suitable answers were returned. At a later period addresses were presented to his Lordship, from various other public bodies and places in the Province.

The 30th of May has been rendered memorable by the forcible seizure and destruction of the steamboat *Sir Robert Peel*, by a band of armed ruffians, while lying at Wells' Island, in the waters of the United States. This boat was built at Brockville in the course of the year 1837; and is said to have cost upwards of ten thousand pounds, having been fitted up and furnished in a style superior to most of the steamboats plying on *Lake Ontario*. Her owners were partly British subjects, and partly citizens of the United States; and she was commanded by Captain Armstrong. On the evening of the 29th of May, she left Prescott for Toronto; and, on her voyage, stopped at Wells' Island, in the waters and territories of the United States, for the purpose of taking in a supply of wood, as she was accustomed to do. This island is situated

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about seven miles below French Creek, a town of the County of Chautauque, in the State of New York; and is one of the group called "The Thousand Isles." It is the largest of the group, and forms what is designated by the sailors the "Upper Narrows"—the passage bringing vessels within pistol-shot of the island. It was between one or two o'clock in the morning of the 30th of May, that the *Sir Robert Peel* touched at Wells' Island; and it was while the hands were employed in putting fire-wood on board, that a band of armed and disguised pirates made their appearance and took possession of the boat. The whole of the passengers and some of the crew were in bed at the time. The pirates might be about thirty in number, and were under the command of a leader who appeared to direct all their movements. They rushed on board in a compact body, charging with their arms, and taking immediate possession of all parts of the boat. They, however, left a guard on the gangway, to prevent any of the crew who had been on shore from returning to the boat. Captain Armstrong and one or two persons on deck, were threatened with instant death unless they quitted the boat. The Captain remonstrated, and ordered the boat to be cut adrift; but his design was frustrated by the pirates, who forced himself, and all those on deck at the same time, ashore. The next attack was made on the ladies' cabin. It appears that one of the ladies, who had been alarmed by some unusual circumstance, had got out of bed; and lifting one of the curtains at the side window of

the door, beheld the pirates rushing on board the boat. She at once perceived the actual state of the case; but afraid to occasion unnecessary alarm, she merely informed her companions, that she believed the boat was on fire, upon which they immediately got up, and endeavoured to dress themselves. They had scarcely begun to do so, when a loud knocking was heard at their cabin door, increasing in violence, and accompanied by threatening expressions, in consequence of some unavoidable delay in obtaining the key and unlocking the door. When opened, one of the pirates entered; but was arrested by the same lady, who seized his arm, and telling her name, asked, what they wanted? The only answer was, "Come with me and I shall save you—the nations are at war." "But surely," said she, "you shall allow us to dress ourselves, and save our baggage," to which he replied, "Yes," and left the cabin. But before the ladies had time to put on their clothes, the cabin windows were shattered by pikes, bayonets, and other arms, amidst the most terrific menaces and imprecations, and cries of "Remember the *Caroline*!" The ladies were then roughly hurried ashore; and being joined by one of the deck passengers, they were led, some of them without shoes or stockings, through mud, and over sharp stones, to the summit of the island, where they sat down in perfect darkness, endeavouring to prepare themselves for the worst.*

*We have taken this brief statement of the attack upon the ladies' cabin, and their brutal expulsion from the boat, from a very interesting and well-written account of the whole affair, which appeared in the *Kingston Chronicle*, and subscribed, "A Passenger in the Ladies' Cabin, on board the *Sir Robert Peel*."

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Meanwhile, the gentlemen passengers hearing the noise on deck, got up and attempted to leave their cabin, but they were rudely pushed back by the pirates with their bayonets, guns and lances. At last, however, after the cabin windows had been broken, and some of themselves assaulted and beaten in a most savage and barbarous manner, they were ordered on deck, and forced on shore, many of them undressed, and without being able to save any of their baggage. Some of them made an effort to recover their clothes, but the alarm and confusion were so great, that but little success attended the attempt. Much property and very large sums of money were thus lost; but we believe that a considerable part of the latter was afterwards recovered. The object of the pirates having been thus far accomplished, they cut out the steamboat, and allowed her to drift down the current for a short distance, when they brought her to anchor. They then plundered her of everything that was valuable, and set fire to her; betaking themselves in five or six boats to the American shore. "Instantly," says the fair writer whom we have already quoted, "a brilliant flame ascended, the red light of which disclosed to us everything around us. The *Sir Robert Peel* had been taken to rather a distant point, and our beautiful boat was burning; but we had no power to save her. We saw the cowardly band, when they had finished their fiend-like deed, row quietly away through the calm water, as if they had done nought to trouble us or them. Suddenly our thoughts were turned from ourselves and the pirates; for there

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arose from the midst of the flames, most piercing shrieks of 'My God! my God! can nobody save me?' Fortunately there was a skiff moored to the wharf, which was quickly put off, but before it had reached the burning boat, the sufferer, who was proved to be the mate, had thrown himself into the water. He was picked up and brought to the hut most dreadfully burned." The passengers and crew of the *Sir Robert Peel* then betook themselves, for shelter, to a shanty or hut on Well's Island, where they remained in a most forlorn condition till about six o'clock in the morning, when they were taken off by the American steamboat *Oneida*, Captain Smith, who, though on his passage down the St. Lawrence to Ogdensburg, kindly returned with them to Kingston.

When intelligence of this unparalleled outrage had been communicated to the Executive Governments at Quebec and Toronto, both the Earl of Durham and Sir George Arthur issued Proclamations with regard to it. In that of the former, a reward of one thousand pounds was promised to any person or persons who should identify and bring to conviction before any competent tribunal, any person actually engaged in, or directly aiding and abetting the perpetration of the outrage. His Lordship also proclaimed his determination to secure the protection of Her Majesty's subjects in Upper Canada, by the employment of every means in his power, and to appeal to the Government of the United States to vindicate its honour, by avenging the insult which had been offered to their authority by a band of

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lawless pirates, and repairing the wrongs which had been inflicted on Her Majesty's subjects. His Excellency, however, earnestly exhorted all persons carefully to abstain from any acts of retaliation which might expose them to the imputation of a disregard of their own honour, by a violation of the internal rights of adjoining powers. The proclamation of Sir George Arthur was to the same effect, except that it did not offer a reward. His Excellency very justly observed, that the demeanour and conduct of the population of Upper Canada had been that of a people resting securely upon the sanctity of law, and the regular exercise of the power of the great Empire of which they formed a part; and accordingly, even during rebellion and foreign invasion, that Province had not been disgraced by any scenes of individual violence, or revenge, on the part of its loyal inhabitants. The character which had thus been gained to that Province had commanded the admiration of the British people—demonstrated the proud superiority of British institutions—and was too valuable to be sacrificed in its smallest part, for the sudden gratification of indignant feelings, however justly they might have been aroused. Nor, we are proud to state, notwithstanding the atrocious character of the outrage upon the *Sir Robert Peel*, did the inhabitants of Upper Canada infringe any of the injunctions contained in the above proclamations. The only thing that could be construed into such an act, and which was insidiously alluded to by the President of the United States, in a Message to Congress, as an act of re-

tallitory aggression on the part of Upper-Canada, was the circumstance of two sentries, stationed on the wharf at Brockville, who, by mistaking their orders, fired upon the *Telegraph*, an American steamboat, as she passed that place, a day or two after the destruction of the *Sir Robert Peel*.

As soon as intelligence of that barbarous outrage had been communicated to the authorities of the United States, efforts were made to apprehend and bring to justice the perpetrators of the diabolical act; and Governor Marcy, of the state of New York, issued a proclamation, offering a reward for the arrest of some of the ringleaders.

On the 21st of June, another futile and infatuated attempt was made to disturb the peace and subvert the institutions of Upper Canada, by an armed body of traitors and brigands, at a place called Short Hills, in the Township of Pelham. This place is situated about twelve miles west of the River Niagara, and consists of a part of the ridge of hills which forms the heights of Queenston, and winds round the head of Lake Ontario; but a district of country, five or six miles square, is also known by the name of the Short Hills. The Hills proper are, we believe, the highest ground in Upper Canada; and both Lakes Erie and Ontario can be viewed from them. We learn by a despatch from Major Townshend, of the 24th Regiment—then commanding, with the rank of Colonel, on the Niagara frontier, and having his head-quarters at the Falls—that, for some days previous to the affair at the Short Hills, reports

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had reached that gallant and active officer that parties of rebels and brigands had been collecting in his rear. Major Townshend took every pains to ascertain the truth of these reports, by visiting the different posts within his command; the result of which was that a great number of the people in the neighbourhood of the Short Hills had been holding clandestine meetings, and a correspondence with the ill-disposed in the States. He also discovered that some suspicious-looking persons had been assembled in a swamp in the rear of Chippewa, to the number of about forty or fifty, and had moved off in the direction of the Short Hills. The fact was, that a great many brigands from the Niagara frontier of the United States, invited, encouraged and assisted by a few disaffected individuals on the same frontier in Upper Canada, had taken their departure from several points, and found their way into the Province in small, detached parties, gathering strength as they approached the place of rendezvous. A few days previous to the attack on the Short Hills, a body of from twenty to thirty brigands had assembled on Navy Island, the old haunt of insurgents and pirates; from whence they crossed the river, landing in the bush above Chippewa, where they hid during the whole of next day. At night they moved forward, and took up their quarters in a deserted barn, near the old Camp Ground. Here they were informed by a scout that the main body of the brigands had removed into Winchester's bush; and that, by going in a certain direction, they would probably meet

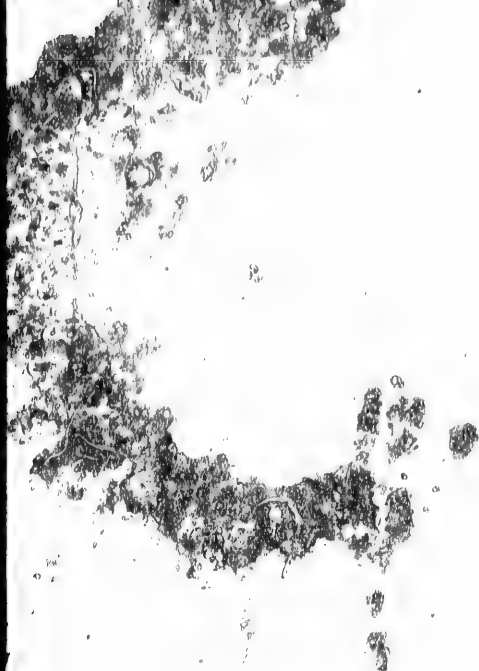
with some one on the look-out, who would shew them the way to the camp of their friends. They did meet such a person; and on arriving in the camp, as it is called, they found a large party of men, with military stores, under the command of James Moreau, bearing the rank of Colonel. Here the combined forces of the brigands remained concealed for two days previous to the affair of the Short Hills. During this time they were frequently visited by Samuel Chandler, who brought them ample supplies of provisions, and who was called Commissary. It was at last determined that a small party, consisting of ten men, of the embodied Militia called the Queen's Lancers, stationed at Osterout's Tavern at St. John's, in the Short Hills, should be attacked; and, accordingly, about nine o'clock on the night of the 20th June, the brigands marched out of their camp in three divisions, the whole being under the command of Moreau. Arriving at a school-house, the third division was ordered into a hollow, and desired to halt, while the first and second marched onwards to the attack. They arrived at the tavern where the Lancers were quartered at about one o'clock in the morning of the 21st; and immediately opened a very hot fire upon it. The whole of the Lancers were in bed, with the exception of the sentry, who gave the alarm, and ran up stairs, stating that he had been fired upon from without. This firing commenced, the Lancers returned it with their pistols. The action continued for nearly an hour, when the brigands, finding that they could make

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no impression upon the Lancers, brought bundles of straw from an adjoining building, and set fire to the house. By this means, the Lancers were under the necessity of giving up the unequal contest, and of surrendering themselves prisoners; but not before two of their assailants had been very severely wounded. "The gallant conduct of the Lancers, on this occasion," says Major Townshend in his despatch of the 22nd, "is beyond all praise. Sergeant Bailey, who commanded the party in the house at St. John's, did not surrender until the house was set fire to; and continued firing on the rebels without intermission." As soon as the Lancers became prisoners, they received the most barbarous usage from the brigands. They were stripped of their clothes and accoutrements, robbed of their horses, and carried in insulting triumph to the camp of the brigands in Winchester's bush, where they were detained till the following day.

In the meantime, intelligence of the attack upon the Lancers having reached Major Townshend, he despatched Lieut. Magrath, of the Queen's Lancers, to St. John's, for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of the affair; but this officer, instead of immediately returning with the information, joined another party of the Lancers, under Lieut. Heath, who had gone in pursuit of the brigands, and succeeded in capturing five of them, among whom was Chandler, whom Lieut. Heath had taken with his own hands. He pursued the brigand into a swamp, and at the risk of his life; and, with the loss of his horse, made him prisoner, after a most



desperate resistance. When the brigands found that Chandler had been taken prisoner, they retreated up the Gainsborough road as far as the Narrows, where they halted for a few hours, and then marched up the Chippewa River. They kept in a body till about three miles above Smithville, when they began to disperse in various directions, leaving their commander, Moreau, in the rear. But Moreau was shortly afterwards arrested by a Volunteer of the name of Charles Eady, who brought him before Major Townshend, to whom he confessed that he was a native of Pennsylvania. Several other prisoners were shortly afterwards taken.

Immediately after information of this affair had reached Sir George Arthur, His Excellency issued a Proclamation giving full notice of it, and commanding that no person should be permitted to land upon, or leave the shore, on the British side of the Niagara, coming from or going to the territories of the United States, unless he should give a full and reasonable account of himself, and show that he was coming or going in the prosecution of his lawful affairs or business, which person should be furnished with a passport to secure him from further hindrance or molestation. His Excellency then repaired to the Niagara District, where he issued another Proclamation, offering a reward of five hundred pounds for the arrest of Moreau; but, as we have seen, the brigand had already been arrested.

On the 21st of July, Moreau was tried before a

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Court of Special Commission held at Niagara, Mr. Justice Jones presiding. He was indicted for felony, under a recent Act of the Provincial Legislature for the trial and punishment of foreigners found in arms, with British subjects, against the peace of the Province; and, being found guilty, he was executed on the 30th of July. Many of the other prisoners were tried and convicted; but their sentences were commuted for transportation to a penal colony. They were accordingly conveyed to Quebec, and there shipped for England with the view of being sent to Botany Bay, or to Van Dieman's Land. But they no sooner arrived in Liverpool, than joint affidavits were made by Mr. Hume and Mr. Roebuck, setting forth "that they had reason to believe the process under which the prisoners had been committed was illegal; and that they were entitled to their liberty." Upon these affidavits, *Habeas Corpus* were issued by the Court of Queen's Bench, and the prisoners were removed to London. But upon a full consideration of their case, as well as that of others from Upper Canada placed in somewhat similar circumstances, the Court remanded the whole of the prisoners to the custody of the gaoler at Liverpool. This, however, did not content the colleagues in England of those rebels, brigands, and felons; for no sooner had the Court of Queen's Bench refused to set the prisoners at liberty, than an application was made to the Court of Exchequer for a similar writ of *Habeas Corpus*. The writ was granted as a matter of course; but the final consideration and adjudi-

cation of the case were postponed till the April term of that Court.

The 28th of June being the day appointed for the Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, it was celebrated, not only in Upper and Lower Canada, but throughout the whole of Her Majesty's dominions in North America, with every possible demonstration of joy and congratulation, and in a spirit of enthusiastic loyalty, and affectionate regard for Her Majesty's person and government, which cannot fail to reflect eternal honour upon the good taste and good feeling of the inhabitants of this portion of the empire.

On the same day, His Excellency the Governor-General convoked a Special Council, by whose advice and consent an Ordinance was passed to provide for the security of the Province of Lower Canada. In the preamble of these Ordinances, it was stated that divers subjects of Her Majesty in this Province had been charged with high treason and other offences of a treasonable nature, some of whom were in custody, and others of whom had withdrawn themselves from the pursuit of justice beyond the limits of the Province; and that it was the most gracious will and pleasure of Her Majesty that no further proceedings should be had or taken against any persons whomsoever, on account of such high treason or other offences of a treasonable nature, with certain exceptions mentioned in the Ordinance. It was therefore ordained and enacted that the following persons, having "severally acknowledged their participation in such high treason,

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son, and having severally submitted themselves to the will and pleasure of Her Majesty," it should be lawful for Her Majesty to transport them to the Islands of Bermuda, during her pleasure:—Wolfred Nelson, Robert Shore Milnes Bouchette, Bonaventure Viger, Simeon Marchessault, Henri Alphonse Gauvin, Toussaint H. Goddu, Rodolphe DesRivières, and Luc Hyacinthe Masson. And with regard to the following persons, as well as those just named, and against whom warrants for high treason had been issued, and who had severally absconded from the limits of the Province, it was ordained and enacted that if at any time they should return into the Province without leave of the Governor, they should be deemed and taken to be guilty of high treason, and should, on conviction of such return, suffer death accordingly:—Louis Joseph Papineau, Cyrille Hector Octave Cote, Julien Gagnon, Robert Nelson, Edmund Burke O'Callaghan, Edward Etienne Rodier, Thomas Storrow Brown, Euger Duvernay, Etienne Cartier, George Et. Cartier, John Ryan the elder, John Ryan the younger, Louis Perrault, Pierre Paul Demaray, Joseph Francois Davignon, and Louis Gautier. By the concluding clause of the Ordinance, it was enacted that nothing contained therein, or in any Proclamation that might be issued in consequence of it, should be construed to extend to the cases of the persons, charged as being concerned in the murder of Lieutenant Weir and Joseph Chartrand. Immediately after the passing of this Ordinance, a Proclamation was issued by the Governor-General

recapitulating and enforcing its provisions; and a few days afterwards, the eight prisoners ordered to be transported to Bermuda, were sent from this city to Quebec, and there shipped for their destination, on board *H. M. S. Vestal*. But the Ordinance being shortly afterwards disallowed by Her Majesty, and an Act passed by the Imperial Parliament for indemnifying those who had issued it and acted under it, the prisoners were permitted to leave their place of banishment. They all landed, a few months afterwards, in the United States, whence they have generally returned to Canada.

On the 5th of July, His Excellency the Earl of Durham, family and suite, arrived at Montreal from Quebec, in the *John B. Lamb* boat, on a tour to Upper Canada; but his ship did not land till next day, when he was cordially received and welcomed by the whole mass of the loyal inhabitants of the city.

After being present at a grand review of the troops in garrison at Montreal,—holding a levee on the 9th of July, which was numerously attended,—and receiving Addresses from various public bodies and institutions in town.—His Excellency proceeded, on the morning of the 10th, on his tour to Upper Canada. In every part of that Province which his Lordship visited, he was received with every mark of respect due to his rank and station as Her Majesty's Representative; and in the loyal Addresses presented on these occasions, the utmost confidence was expressed in the justice and impartiality of his Lordship's Ad-

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